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A Full VIEW OF Dr. BENTLEY's Letter TO THE Lord Biſhop of ELY.

In a Diſcourſe to a FRIEND.

WHEREIN

The whole Strain of that Celebrated Piece throughout, is Fairly, Familiarly, and Largely Conſider'd.

By *THO. BLOMER*, M. A.
Fellow of *Trinity* College in *Cambridge*.

——Quid me alta ſilentia cogis
Rumpere, & obductum verbis vulgare dolorem?
Virg. Æn. 10.

——Longa eſt injuria, longæ
Ambages; ſed ſumma ſequar faſtigia rerum.
Ibid.

Nec ſervire ulli poſſumus; nec imperare deſideramus.
Scyth. Leg. ap. Curt. L. 7.

——Decima demum pugnavimus anno.
Ovid. Met.

LONDON:
Printed for *R. Knaplock* at the *Biſhop's-Head*, and *R. Wilkin* at the *King's-Head*, in St. *Paul's* Church-Yard. MDCCX.

A

FULL VIEW

OF

DR. BEATTIE'S Letter

TO THE

Lord Bishop of ELY.

In a Dialogue in FRENCH.

WHEREIN

The whole Strain of that Celebrated Piece of Profligacy, is fairly, familiarly, and largely Considered.

By JOHN BLOOMER, M. A.
Fellow of Trinity College in Cambridge.

LONDON:
Printed for R. Baldwin at the Rose in Paternoster-Row, and
J. Fletcher, at the Angel in Cornhill, 1776.

THE PREFACE.

IT would be but a poor Piece of Curiosity, should we give our selves the trouble of guessing to what Hand my Lord of Ely, and the World are indebted for the Publication of Dr. Bentley's Letter, concerning the Present State of his College. The Editor indeed, whoever he is, desires to recommend himself under the Title of a Gentleman. And yet, were there nothing else, the very Design of Publishing such Papers, makes his Claim somewhat disputable: But then his Way and Manner of doing it, has perfectly superseded the Dispute; has determin'd the Point absolutely against him; and will be look'd upon, I believe, as an unanswerable Proof, that he has suppress'd his True Character; and in short, that it implies no less than a Contradiction, to suppose him any thing but an Impostor.

He tells us, That written Copies having been distributed among some Persons of Quality, it was His Fortune to meet with One. Doubtless! We shall have him shortly set up for a Person of Quality Himself. But without carrying the Matter so far, I allow it is not altogether incredible, that Persons of Quality, being once appris'd of his singular Taste and Disposition for Scurrility, should think it much fitter for His Perusal, than their Own. 'Twas this happy Disposition that engag'd him to a careful Perusal of it. Had it been only his great Esteem for Dr. Bentley's Name, that very Principle would have engag'd a Judicious

Well-bred Man, to ſtifle and conceal what could not be communicated without bringing a Blaſt upon the Reputation of him, whoſe Name it was to bear.

But He, on the contrary, confeſſes, that by frequent Reading it, "*His Indignation was rais'd higher and* "*higher ſtill, at the Malice and Impudence of the Ac-* "*cuſers. This I can hardly believe to be a real and hearty Confeſſion: Becauſe, if it be really true, he has plaid the moſt perfidious inconſiſtent Part that ever Man did: He has brought the plaineſt Arguments in Nature, to vindicate the* Candor *and* Modeſty *of the Accuſers: when it was his profeſs'd immediate Buſineſs to convict them of* Malice *and* Impudence.

And therefore, I imagine, as He does, "*the Reader* "*will be far from thinking him too* Severe;" *rather, I am afraid, Dr.* Bentley *will find him ſo: And, if He can pardon him, the* Accuſers *will have no great reaſon to repine at his* Severity. *For, I perſuade myſelf, the World, when they have* Compar'd *theſe things together, will form, upon the* Compariſon, *ſuch an Opinion of thoſe Perſons, as it wou'd go very much againſt the Grain with the* Gentleman of the Temple *to expreſs in* Words.

He deſires, in One Line, to be excus'd, upon the Account of his Baſhfulneſs, from uttering a Severe *Thing that he had form'd in his* Own Breaſt: *But in the very next, fancying he had met with a much* Severer, *he recovers his Aſſurance, and* takes the Liberty to ſay, --- "*That having a Liſt of the Sub-* "*ſcribers Names, and having made it his Buſineſs to* "*enquire after their Characters, he does not wonder to* "*find Enemies to the preſent Adminiſtration uneaſy* "*under the good Diſcipline of their own College.*" *The* Gentleman of the Temple *is ſtrangely given to Impoſe upon Himſelf: as here, for Inſtance; He reckons he ſhall paſs for a* Severe Writer, *becauſe he has the Front to be* Sawcy *and* Uncharitable. *But I wiſh he does not pay Dear for his Miſtake, when, inſtead of being*

ing Dreaded and Admired, he finds himself Hated, Abhorr'd, and shunn'd where ever he goes.

To come with a crude precarious Assertion, in general Terms, concerning a Number of Men, of whom he does not pretend to have any Personal Knowledge; and Publish it to the World, as undeniable Matter of Fact, that they are all Enemies to the Government under which they live; This He, perhaps, may Glory in, as a Severe Stroke; but those who are truly Gentlemen of the Temple, will, I believe, inform him, 'tis Actionable: Those who are Moderate and Unprejudiced, nay, even the Non-Subscribers Themselves will tell him, 'tis Vile, 'tis Shameful, 'tis Absurd; and every Common Christian will tell him, 'tis Furious, 'tis Barbarous, 'tis Villanous, 'tis Diabolical.

'Tis really a lamentable Scene to behold a Man of Dr. Bentley's Character and Station led about into every Coffee-house, and Tavern, and Publick Company, for the Sport and Diversion of such a Knight of the Post.

Dr. Bentley himself, is more continent and considerate in the Midst of his Spleen. He fairly tells us, One was Dead, and therefore he had nothing to object against Him ---- Others were no Members ---- Others do not join in the Accusation --- Others not Resident. --- And then lastly, Most of the Remainder were so and so. ---

But the Hero, he makes this Campaign under, cuts down all before him as he goes; is as Impartial and Merciless as Death, or an ignorant Physician: Nay, worse; the Grave can't stop his Rage: Dr. Cressar must be rouz'd from thence, to appear among the rest of his Criminals. Dr. Cressar, in the Opinion of all that knew him, was a Man of good Learning, and of great Integrity; of as Blameless a Life, and of as Inoffensive a Temper, as Dr. Bentley: Yet, neither the Decorum of his Manners, the Example of his Life, nor the Dignity of his Profession, not even the Seal of Death could

protect him from the Violation of that Unhallow'd and Polluted Pen.

---- Nec te tua plurima, Panthen,
Labentem pietas, nec Apollinis infula texit.

There are other Names too in his List, who by all that ever yet appear'd, are as good Subjects, and as worthy of the Places they hold, as Dr. Bentley, *or his* Publisher. *And as to good* Discipline *in their Own College, they declare themselves* Capable *of no other Uneasiness than this, that they are sorry it has not been exerted oftner, and to better Purpose. They are, farther, not all unwilling to own (tho' perhaps it be not known to Half the Nation,) that Virtue and all Manner of Learning have been encourag'd by Dr.* Bentley, pro Arbitrio Magistri, *according to his* Humour, *as far as his* Will *and* Pleasure; *but not, properly speaking, as far as his* Power *cou'd reach. If* This *forces us to think they are* secretly angry *with him, and to avoid the* Shame *of declaring it publickly, pretend Mal-Administration, as to the* Revenues *of the College: It shews, at the same time, that they have a greater Tenderness for him, than the* Publisher *has.*

Whoever reads Dr. Bentley's Letter, *had need be a very sagacious Man; For the* Publisher *requires him, "at First Sight, to find that there is not the least "ground for such a Pretence; nay, that in this very "Branch, he has done more for the Interest of the So-"ciety than any, than all the Masters since the Foun-"dation": Never considering, that there are some slow Heads, that don't love to Determine upon a Question till they have heard both Sides of it.*

Upon the Strength of his Demonstration just before produc'd, He Expostulates with the By-stander; and puts him in Mind, that 'tis his Duty to be Astonish'd "to see some Gentlemen of the University (who at least "if

"good Manners should pretend to Learning) by all the "Vile and Malicious Ways, endeavour to blacken that "Person, whose Character was (Dum Fortuna "fuit,) both at Home and Abroad, their greatest "Credit. Whether the University hath receiv'd great-est Comfort and Support from the Credit he has done it by his Foreign, or by his Domestick Character, seems no very easy Problem: But as for Blackening him, sure no Blackness was ever comparable to, ever Half so Deep or Intense, as that He has lately been dipp'd in, not by any of the University, but by the Person who publish'd his Letter with such a Preface before it; and who is of one of the Inns of Court, if there be any Faith in what he says, when he calls himself a Gentleman of the Temple. This Publisher, when he admonishes some Gentlemen of the University, That they ought at least in good Manners to pretend to Learning, has drawn his own Picture at full Length; and has convinc'd the World, by a Pre-face of Two Pages, that the very Top of his Attain-ments, with Regard to Manners and Learning too, is compriz'd in this, That he is a Pretender to Learn-ing.

For it is to be observ'd, He brings a most sufficient Argument, why neither He, nor even a Man of but Common Justice or Love for Letters, shou'd be-lieve any thing that's amiss, or to the Disadvantage of Dr. Bentley: And the Argument is, Because he is a Person to whom Religion and Learning are so much in-debted.

Here, in the first Place, he declares himself to be a Man of no Common Justice, or Love for Letters: And there may be something of Truth in this. And therefore, I was not surpriz'd to find him argue, in a Prophane fulsome Way, that Religion was Indebted to Dr. Bentley; and that therefore Dr. Bentley cou'd not fairly be suppos'd to do any thing amiss. This is Θαυμαζειν μετα μαρτυρος with a Witness! This is having

Mens Persons in Admiration, *to some Purpose? All the Service I can foresee he is like to do Dr.* Bentley *by such an Obnoxious Panegyrick, is, that* Religion *having contracted so large a* Debt *with Dr.* Bentley, *Dr.* Bentley *sees no Prospect of ever recovering it of her, and is weary of* Ticking *her any longer: And this may suggest a Solution of the Observation many People have made, that he has, upon some Disgust, withdrawn himself, in a great Measure, from her Service. He will say, perhaps, he does not mean Religion it self, but the Professors of it. This will mend the Matter mightily; since, if Dr.* Bentley *expects his Reward from* Them, Religion *will tell him,* he has his Reward. *And, even in Point of Preferment, Dr.* Bentley *has been consider'd, at least, in Proportion to his* Christian *Labours. Dr.* Bentley, *I dare answer for him, wou'd abominate such unwarrantable silly Expressions: And, I hope, he Blushes for his Friend the* Publisher; *who, indeed, seems past it.*

And so he goes on to shew his Learning, *by making a Parcel of unaccountable Demands: Which I must endeavour to satisfy him in, as well as I can.* "*Was* "*not he (says he, speaking of Dr.* Bentley*) the* "*First that discover'd the unknown Use of the Excel-*"*lent Sir* Isaac Newton's Principia Mathematica, "*and successfully apply'd that Theory to Demonstrate* "*the Being of a God? - - - Let him ask Sir* Isaac Newton, *Who* First discover'd *the* Unknown *Use of his* Principia Mathematica? - - - "*Have not* "*all the Writers upon that Subject, copied after his* "Boyle's Lectures? - - - *Let him ask the Parties concern'd: Let him ask the Bishop of* Exeter: *Let him ask the Friends of the late Bishop of* Chichester; *Let him ask Dr.* Gastrel; *Let him ask the Present Dean of* Canterbury; *Let him ask Dr.* Clark: *Let him ask all These; and then for a* Different *Reason, let him ask Mr.* Whiston. - - - "*And have not the* "*Atheists been silent since that time, and sheltered them-*

themſelves under Deiſm? — —. *Let him aſk Dr.* Bentley *that Queſtion: For 'tis plain he has not read* His *Sermons neither, no more than any of the reſt.* Shelter'd themſelves under Deiſm! *Dr.* Bentley *has taken Pains to fine Purpoſe, if* Deiſm *is become an* Aſylum *for an Atheiſt. Dr.* Bentley *ſuppoſes it next to an Impoſſibility, for any Man to be a downright Atheiſt. The* Deiſts *are the main Adverſaries Dr.* Bentley *encounters, and confutes: And* Deiſm *is the very* Shelter *he undertakes to diſpoſſeſs 'em of. Dr.* Bentley *knows very well, and all People of Senſe allow it, that a* Deiſt *is a much more dangerous Enemy to Chriſtianity, than a Profeſs'd* Atheiſt. *And yet, He ſays,* Dr. Bentley has ſhelter'd the Atheiſts under Deiſm! *This is the* Learning his good Manners *oblige him to* Pretend to. *I'm pretty ſure the Gentlemen of the* Temple *are better* Divines *than this comes to, a great deal. But this was proper to amuſe the* Vulgar, *and ſet* Ignoramus's *a Staring.*

However, he proceeds to be more Learned ſtill; but he deſires he may have Leave to do it in a pleaſant, dry Way; by rumbling out an idle Volly of Foreign Names, beginning with Baron Spanheme, *and ending with* Hemſterhuſius. *From all which Splendid* Apparatus, *what Uſe can be gather'd, than that Great Men are always Sparing of their Compliments to Themſelves, and Laviſh of 'em to One Another? Then, after his* Tranſmarine Evidence, *the Solemn Trifler introduces our Own Learned Countrymen; Beginning with Dr.* Potter, *and Ending with Mr.* Davis.

Dr. Potter *is an Excellent Man; and of as Uſeful and Valuable Abilities, as any one of his Order: And I am very much diſpos'd to hear, and approve of any Judgment He is pleas'd to give. I can recollect but One Paſſage in his* Lycophron, *where he expreſly mentions Dr.* Bentley; *and that is This.* "*Porro* "*Τέρρας repoſui pro* Τηρος, *ex mente eruditiſſimi* Bent-

"leij

" leij, *in Fragment. Callimachi.* p. 388. Καδυδδ
" *est vox nihili; neq; difficile erit veram lectionem re-*
" *perire: Sed in præsentia nihil succurrit, inquit ibidem*
" *Vir clarissimus.* But I can direct the Publisher to another Passage, in his Preface, where he seems to have drawn his Own, and Dr. Bentley's Character very successfully, tho' he mentions nobody but Himself: To gratify the Admirers of Both those great Men, I will transcribe it at length.

" *Constitueram, Erudite Lector, quo Liber hic justi-*
" *orem molem obtineret, Nicandrum consimili opera*
" *ornatum una emittere; Sed cum nullius M. S. C. Co-*
" *dicis copia esset, & mutata Studiorum ratio aliud sua-*
" *deret, satius duxi, & in rem meam conducibilius;*
" *propositum opus dimittere: Altiores jam me vocant*
" *curæ, quæq; (prout dignæ sunt) totum habebunt:*
" Indignum enim semper putavi homine Chri-
" stiano, præsertim qui sacræ Theologiæ nomen
" dedit, in vanis & inutilibus Ethnicorum deliriis
" ætatem ludere; cum interim mirum quanta SS.
" Patrum Supellex contemta, aut non minus ac
" contemneretur, neglecta & inculta jaceat.
" *Per me licet, alii laureas captent ex* Criticâ, *ex Hi-*
" *storia, ex Philosophia, cæterisq; Artibus, in quibus*
" *me lubens fateor vix esse mediocriter versatum;*
" Mihi sane videbor summum attigisse felicitatis
" culmen, si quid ad Bonorum profectum, si quid
" ad Ecclesiæ Christianæ decus tenue hoc inge-
" nium conferre unquam poterit.

From Dr. Potter, *he descends as* low *as to Mr.* Needham, *and Mr.* Davis. *These are Criticks in the Bud: This is proving* per Ignotius. *And Dr.* Bentley *would probably except against the* Last; *because he has already declar'd to the World (which was more than he needed to have done) that the Editor of*

the Tuſculan Queſtions *is not yet arriv'd to any* Maturity *of* Judgment. †

In the laſt place, He ſums up the Labour of the whole Poſſe * for ſeveral Years; *by producing, a* good ſizable Folio, the New and Noble Edition of *Ariſtophanes* by Dr. *Kuſter*. *But when he cites the Learned* Author, *we muſt have a Care of being led into a Miſtake; for it ſeems he does not mean the Learned* Author, *but the Learned* Editor; *not* Ariſtophanes, *but* Dr. Kuſter. *Well: And what ſays the Learned Dr.* Kuſter? *Why, beſides a great many High-ſounding General Epithets, he has this peculiar Expreſſion concerning Dr.* Bentley: Vir ſupra Captum Sæculi ſui doctus. *But, pace tanti Viri, dixerim, This is to ſome an Invidious, to moſt People, no better than a Ridiculous Expreſſion. It does not ſo much include and confirm, it rather tends to ſubvert, to null and* caſſate *all the other Authorities he has produc'd. And yet I don't much queſtion but this ſingle* Abſurd *Expreſſion is the main thing that makes the Book paſs, with* Him, *for a* Noble *Edition of* Ariſtophanes.

Dr. Bentley's *Great and Maſterly Learning is queſtion'd by Nobody that I know of. But ſuch an Awkward Solicitude to eſtabliſh the Credit of it, ſo à contre tems, by a noiſy Appeal to the* Critics and Antiquaries Abroad, *is the ready way to bring it into Diſgrace. It looks as if Dr.* Bentley *had nothing elſe to ſhew for it, but ſuch little Scraps and Quotations of Glavering Latinity. And, with regard to the Matters now under Debate, it is not only Childiſh and Impertinent, but it is a very groſs piece of Rudeneſs towards theſe Learned Perſons, whoſe Authorities are*

* *Vid* Dr. Bentley's Lett. p. 72.

† Vid. Bentleij Emend. ad Tuſcul. pag. 54. Laudo equidem *Conatum*, & ingenio tuo faveo, quod ubi SEMEL MATURUIT, præclariſſimos fructus *dabit*. Et Ibid. p. 61. Nolo tibi tam SERVILE eſſe ingenium ut in MANIFESTISSIMIS HÆREAS; quia libri non ad LITERAM ea exhibeant. Nollem Te locum per ſe *plus ſatis mendoſum*, dum *Curationi* manum admoves, PEJUS adhuc CONTAMINASSE. p. 58.

pleaded,

pleaded. For why shou'd Baron Spanheme *be disturb'd about Dr.* Bentley's *good or ill Management of the Affairs of* Trinity-College? *How comes* Wolfius *to be a proper Arbitrator, concerning the Old and New Scheme of Dividends? And what has* Hemsterhusius *to do to settle the Private Differences between the Master and Fellows of a College in the University of* Cambridge?

And yet the Gentleman of the Temple *is clearly of Opinion, that the very Mention of so many Volumes has fully decided the whole Controversy: And that the Reader will presently join with him in Railing at some Gentlemen of the University, and some of the* London *Clergy, who with nothing but* Boldness and Ignorance on their Side, publickly traduce one great Ornament of their Order. *Hereupon he relapses into his old* Saucineſs, *and* Want of Charity: *And in his next Period, proposes an Infallible Test for Eminent Learning and Piety; which he makes to consist in* speaking with all the Esteem and Respect imaginable of Dr. *Bentley: Who but Dr.* Bentley *wou'd endure such a* Sycophant?

I shall make no Apology for what I have said, neither shall I give any Reasons for Publishing the following Discourse; because Dr. Bentley's *Publisher has given stronger Reasons for* My *Behaviour in this Particular, than He himself, or any one else can give for* His. *I have taken the Trouble of Answering him; but Dr.* Bentley, *I think, by right, shou'd have done it for me; since He has the greatest Cause to apprehend the bad Consequences of his Rancor and Venom. For, after all the loud and heavy Charge of Impudence and Malice in the* Subscribers, *'tis plain* the Gentleman of the Temple *has exercis'd the* Scourge *upon Dr.* Bentley, *and lash'd him with unrelenting Fury. The* Subscribers *have indeed made their Humble Petition and Complaint against him; but then his* Dear Back *has actually Assassinated him in the most Base and Treacherous Manner.*

A

A FULL VIEW OF Dr. *Bentley's* LETTER, &c.

SIR,

THAT it may never be said I have been so very remiss in my Zeal for the Reputation of the College and University, of which I have the Honour to be a Member, as by a tame Silence to yield my Consent to the Reproach and Infamy, in which we may possibly be involv'd, by means of a late *reviling Pamphlet*, intitled, *The Present State of Trinity-College*; I have at length determin'd to give you the Interruption of what follows.

Not that I am in any Pain lest You, or any Gentleman to whom I am Personally known, shou'd form a new Judgment of me, or entertain any Opinion to my Prejudice, upon seeing my Name in the Catalogue of *Subscribers* before Dr. *Bentley's* Book; and reading the black and odious Representation he has drawn up of most of that Catalogue at Random, and in the Lump: For, had

had he expresly nam'd me with any particular Character to my *Disadvantage*, I am very well satisfy'd you wou'd not, you cou'd not have believ'd it to be a *true* one.

But yet, considering of how great Importance it is, for Persons that have any Aim at being serviceable to Themselves or their Country, not to be *suspected* for Criminals even by *Strangers*; Considering how readily, and upon how little ground, the Generality of Mankind are dispos'd to harbour and improve any Slanderous Hint or Insinuation: And considering what a Handle Dr. *Bentley* has given to foment such a Disposition, by leaving every Reader at Liberty to fix the Scandal where-ever he pleases: I think I am oblig'd, in Duty to my Neighbour and my Self, to give you some Observations upon Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter; and to furnish you with some particular Topicks to Vindicate, upon Occasion, the Manners and Behaviour of several of us, whom I hope and assure my self you never yet had any Reason or any Temptation to Condemn.

'Tis true, indeed, Whenever Dr. *Bentley* appears in Print, the World stands ready prepar'd, in full Expectation of being entertain'd With a *Modest* Account of the *Weakness*, the *Ignorance*, and *Impudence* of his Opposers. And had he confin'd himself to This, or had the Matter been of no higher a Nature than some common Point of *Criticism*; few or none would have been alarm'd at the Charge. People of Candor would have made Allowances for a *Singularity* of Education; and much would have been given to the peculiar Genius and Complexion of a Man, that determines him wholly to such a *Species* of *Railleries* and Wit. But he has now enter'd upon a new Scheme of Invective; and urges his Satyr with such excessive Vehemence, that 'tis time to look about us.

jam

——— *jam lævus apertam*
In rabiem cæpit vertere jocus, & ne honestis
Ire domos impune minax. ———

To see so many Persons at once, describ'd in no better Colours than those of Sots, Villains, and Ignoramuses; as *living in Vice and Idleness*; as having neither Common *Capacity* nor *Conscience*; as a *Gang* and a *Clan* of Scoundrels, that are MUCH MORE *vile and worthless*, than those that are EVERY WAY *worthless*: ——— This is a loud and sufficient Call for Us, that have any thing to say for our selves, to say it Now: That so the Impartial World may judge, whether this *formidable Complaint*, as Dr. *Bentley* in Derision stiles it, be really *the last Struggle and Effort of Vice and Idleness against Vertue, Learning, and good Discipline*, or whether it be not rather the very Voice of Discipline and Vertue, imploring the Security of Learning and Themselves.

In the mean time, I hope you won't imagine, Sir, from hence, that I design, or shall at all concern my self to propose a general Apology for every one that appears among the *Subscribers*. Whoever among them is openly Scandalous, Vile and Worthless, I actually abandon him: Tho' I sha'n't o' t'other side mention any Man by Name, or flourish and dilate upon a Bad Character with so much Pleasure, and Triumph, and Ostentation, as Dr. *Bentley* has done. And yet I think I might do it with as good a Grace as Dr. *Bentley*; because I have no Commission or Authority to *banish* Crimes, and *rid* the College of its mortify'd and offensive Members, as H E has. And therefore when I hear, as I do sometimes, of Heads of Colleges railing abroad in the World, against the mighty Corruption of the University,

sity, or of their own particular Colleges; it always brings to my Remembrance a *Scripture* Expression, which I take to be very applicable upon those Occasions; *Raging Waves of the Sea, foaming out their own Shame.*

I can assure you, Sir, I am far from taking Delight in uttering any thing that tends to diminish Dr. *Bentley's* Fame and Credit in the World: So far, that I declare it gives me abundance of Regret to have such Matters extorted from me, as I am now going to lay before you. And you cannot fail of being convinc'd, that what I shall say to you upon this Occasion, does not proceed from a Principle of *Ill-Nature*, but from that of a *Necessary* Self-Defense, and a resolute Adherence to *Justice* and *Truth*.

For, since there was a manifest urgent Occasion that the Difference between the *Master* and *Seniors* shou'd be decided; since there was no other probable way of doing it, but by referring to the *Visitor*; and since it was thought the *Visitor* cou'd not be applied to, as *Visitor*, but upon the *Fortieth* Chapter of the Statutes: And Lastly, since, by the Words of *that* Chapter, the *Eight Seniors*, or the *Major* Part of them, are indeed, as the *Master* says in his Letter, appointed to *lay open the whole Matter to the Visitor*; but still *no other* Members are expressly *forbidden*, by *Subscription*, or *in Person*, to attend and wait upon them in that Errand: I was of Opinion that I cou'd not *honestly* refuse my Hand, when it was desir'd.

And I am heartily sorry Dr. *Bentley* shou'd be so set upon doing himself *Publick Right*, as to compel *others* to do themselves *Right* in as *Public* a Manner. For, when he speaks of *Subscribing* CONSCIENTIOUSLY, that is, as he expresses it just before out of *Juvenal*, * *bellowing forth un-*

* Nunc immensa cavi spirant mendacia folles.
See Dr. Bentley's *Lett.* p. 85, & 86.

measurable

measurable Lies; and makes us all so many Partizans of *Vice* and *Idleness*, without distinguishing one Man from *another*, and giving a *good* Word to *none*. What Thoughts, what Suspicions must People form to themselves concerning Us, if we take no notice of so hideous an Imputation?

I *must* therefore, Sir, *tho' never so unwillingly*, confess that I remain still in the same Opinion I was of when I gave my *Subscription*: Nay, I must go farther; I must give you my Reasons, by which I am call'd upon to defend that Opinion. Take 'em then, Sir; not as from a forward Evidence or Informer, but as from a Man under the Tortures of an *Inquisition*; which yet he had rather undergo, mute and patient, than expose himself to the greater Torture of saying any thing deliberately, against his Conscience.

And here, Sir, I shall acquaint you beforehand, that I am as ready as any Man living to own and applaud *the many good Services Dr.* Bentley *has done for the College*; nor am I in the least inclin'd to cavil at the Justice and Lawfulness of the Means he has us'd to compass them.

——— *Neq; enim benefacta maligne*
Detrectare meum est: ———

No, nor am I One of those *Few that dislike him upon account of the Parties and Dissentions of this Age*; nor am I of Any *Party*, but that which dislikes and avoids *Extremes*. Nay, I have express'd, and am ready still to express as much Love and Good-Will towards him as any of his *Admirers*, that are not so to an *Extreme*; if an *Extreme* will be allow'd to be *Possible* in that Case.

But this I look upon to be altogether *Foreign* to the Matters we are at present engag'd in; even as Foreign as the Pompous Display of his *Learn-*

ing, contain'd in his Publiſher's Epiſtle to the Reader. Thoſe things indeed, are all very *Notorious*, but not one Jot to the Purpoſe. For the Queſtion is not, What Service Dr. *Bentley* has done for the College, or what Books he has read or publiſh'd; but, What Good he has *not* done, and what he *has done*, or *propoſes* to do that is *not good*. Theſe are the Points I am to enlarge upon, in giving an Account of my Behaviour, as a *Subſcriber*; and in the Obſervations I promis'd to make upon Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter to the Biſhop of *Ely*.

You muſt give me Leave, Sir, in proſecuting this Buſineſs, to take notice, as I go along, of ſeveral Beautiful Impertinences, ſeveral Exquiſite Inconſiſtencies, ſeveral Maſterly Turns of Compliment, and of Banter, and a vaſt Train of Fallacies; among which, none reigns ſo unmercifully as that which the Men of *Argument* call *Nugatio*. And if I ſhou'd happen, now and then, to anſwer any of 'em in *Kind*, you will bear with me the more eaſily, ſince I profeſs to you, I don't chuſe it out of any natural Fondneſs I have for that way of Writing, but merely out of Complaiſance, that I may not ſeem to put a Slur upon the Pattern He has ſet me.

Non equidem hoc ſtudeo, bullatis ut mihi nugis
Pagina turgeſcat, dare pondus idonea fumo.

We'll begin then, Sir, if you pleaſe, with the very Beginning of his Book; I mean his Publiſher's Epiſtle to the Reader. Here, Sir, if we compare the *Firſt* and the *Laſt* Period together, we ſhall ſoon be made ſenſible what an Advantage it is to write by ſome *Rule*; and with what a wonderful Turn of Addreſs the *Compoſer* has follow'd the Directions of *Horace*, in Point of *Symmetry* and Proportion! —— *Ut*

——— *Ut nec pes, nec caput uni*
Reddatur formæ! ———

In the *First*, we have *Copies distributed among Persons of Quality*; and yet in the *Last*, we are told of his *Tenderness for the Reputation of some of the Accusers*. What Chain, what Agreement, what Relation can there possibly be between these *Two*? Or how can they ever be *reconcil'd*? Or how does *either* of 'em affect the Merits of the Cause? Or how do they *suit*, either singly or jointly, with that *Farrago*, that Lumber of Quotation and of Slander, that makes up the Body of the Preface?

In the next place, Sir, let us consider him as to his *Diligence*: For He made it his *Business*, it seems, to enquire after the *Characters* of the *Subscribers*. And the *Government*, I suppose He expects, will reward him for discovering a *Plot*; a Nest of People that are *Enemies to the Present Administration*! But from whence cou'd He have his Intelligence? It was not reasonable to apply himself to Dr. *Bentley*; for He's too much a Party to pretend to be a Judge. ——— Depend upon it, Sir; all He says is nothing else but

------ *Fussit quod splendida Bilis*;

the overflowing of his Rage and Haughtiness. He knew his Office: Dirt was to be thrown: And This was the Blackest, and the *dirtiest* He cou'd scratch up. He enquir'd of Nobody: He form'd, He forg'd *such* Characters as were for his *Turn*: And *such* Characters, He resolv'd, right or wrong, the Subscribers shou'd have; because *such* were most Odious; and must, probably, do 'em a Mischief:

Et si non aliqua nocuisset, mortuus esset.

Let him give an Instance, if he can, of any One *Subscriber* upon whom any Act of College Discipline has been executed, under the notion of his being an *Enemy to the Present Administration*. I can name a *Non-Subscriber*, tho', for want of room to say Enough, I must omit his great Character, upon whom, and for *That very Crime*, Discipline *ought* to have been executed, and was not. But, if He can produce No such Instance on OUR Side, then let him make out the Pertinence, the Connexion, the Common Christianity, the Common Sense of that petulant *Insinuendo*.

And now, Sir, I am coming to try what Metal You are made of. For I find it laid down in very positive Terms, that You *must own, tho' never so unwillingly, because it is known to the whole Nation, that Vertue and all manner of Learning have been encourag'd by Dr.* Bentley *as far as his Power cou'd reach*. What think you, Sir? How d' you find your self? Are you inclin'd to be very Supple? Has this Writer such a bewitching Talent at making *Proselytes*? Has this Matter of Fact ne'r sounded with such a Universal Assent throughout Her Majesties Dominions? May it not, possibly, have escap'd your Ears? Does it carry such a *Force of Reason*? Or such *cogent Arguments* of *Shame*? —— What? You won't bend? —— Why truly, I must acknowledge, these are Questions not so fit to be resolv'd at first Hearing. And I perceive You have no great Affection for *Extortioners*. —— Well; I'll press you no farther: You're a wary Man: I leave the Matter with you; Take the best Advice You can; and provide an Answer at your Leisure.

But pray, Sir, do me one Favour. I have met with another Difficulty here. How I shall get over it, I can't imagine. I have been revolving

volving and reflecting with my Self, The many Great Men this Univerſity has had the Honour to breed. Let me ſee: We have had a *Verulam*; a *Newton*; a *Pearſon*; a *Tillotſon*; a *Barrow*; a *Stillingfleet*. We have had —— Nay, we have ſtill; for their *Fame* is ever *preſent* with us —— We have Men of as great *Quality*, of as fine *Geniuſes*, and of as Univerſal Merit as any in the World: Of all Orders of Nobility; of all Offices of Eminence and Diſtinction in Church and State: Chancellors, Ambaſſadors, Envoys, Privy Counſellors, Prelates: Men of Letters, Men of Penetration, Men of the exacteſt Honour and Integrity, Men of infinite Candor, Affability, Generoſity, Benevolence and Good Breeding: Such as —— But it wou'd be a kind of *Inſolence* in *Me* to *Name* 'em, eſpecially upon *This* Occaſion, becauſe Moſt of 'em are Now Living. —— And yet *all theſe* put together in the Oppoſite Scale, are as *Nothing* to Dr. *Bentley*! For I find it poſitively aſſerted, That *His Character* is Our *greateſt Credit both at Home and Abroad*! This is openly declar'd, with the uſual Plenitude of Authority: And the *By-ſtander* will be *aſtoniſh'd* if any Man pretends to gain-ſay it. As if all *England*, nay, as if all *Europe* were full of Nothing *elſe* but Dr. *Bentley*! What can we do, Sir, in this Caſe? 'Tis hardly ſafe to ſpeak one's Mind. He's a *haſty* Writer. He'll certainly beſpatter us if we offer to Vote o' t' Other Side. —— We'll take a little Time to conſider on't.

As to the unweildy Cargo he brings of far-fetch'd Encomium upon Dr. *Bentley* from Dedications, Prefaces, and Annotations; I ſhall give it the Go-by: For as it lies there, it is no better than a *Nuiſance*. Our beſt way will be to paſs on as gingerly, and with as much Caution, as

People do when they wou'd avoid a heap of Rubbiſh, or of Ordure. We won't ſo much as put him into a Method to carry it off; Which yet we might eaſily do, by producing, *ex adverſo*, the many *general Epithets*, the many *peculiar Expreſſions*, the many *diſtinguiſhing Appellations*, with which Dr. *Bentley* is mention'd by Mr. *Boyle*, and by *Scaliger* in the *Tale of a Tub*: Which are likewiſe *ſuch as they beſtow upon few or none but Himſelf.*

Before we diſmiſs this accompliſh'd Publiſher, Sir, we will intreat him to Aſſign his Reaſons, Why thoſe *Reverend Divines*, and thoſe *Gentlemen of the Univerſity*, muſt needs be ſuppos'd to be *ignorant of all the College Proceedings*? Why it ſhou'd ſeem Impoſſible for Them to have receiv'd Information from ſuch Perſons as are actual Members of the College, and well acquainted with the Statutes, and ſufficiently appris'd of the true State of the College? Why ſuch Information may not be reckon'd as good and as Credible as what He can pretend to have from Dr. *Bentley*? We will enquire what are thoſe grand *Arcana* upon which He publiſhes Dr. *Bentley's* Letter *for general Information*? And why Nobody muſt preſume to open his Mouth, that is not let into the ſame *Secret* with Himſelf? Laſtly, we will call upon him to explain himſelf concerning that *Crabby* piece of *Engliſh* that immediately follows. "There is nothing to be ſaid in their "Excuſe, but that the *preſent beſt* Miniſtry does "not eſcape their ſevereſt Cenſures." One wou'd imagine he had *Another* Miniſtry in his Eye, which He looks upon to be *better* than the *preſent*. However, let him acquaint the World what he means by the *ſevereſt Cenſures*, and Who the *Cenſurers* are: And let him ſhew how it comes to be ſo very *conſiſtent* with His *Principles* to affirm, That the *ſevereſt Cenſures* upon the *preſent* Mi-

Miniſtry are an *Excuſe*, and an Attonement for thoſe that happen to traduce Dr. *Bentley*.

'Till he has accounted for this rude Senſeleſs way of Talking, and clear'd up thoſe Other Doubtful Queſtions I juſt now propos'd to him; I'm afraid the Reader will hardly allow him to have *earn'd his Fee*. In the mean time, let the Pragmatical Gentleman go about his Buſineſs.

Having got thus far, we are now at liberty to ſurvey the Contents of Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter. For my own part, Sir, if you require my Judgment of it upon the Whole, I muſt acknowledge my ſelf in ſome meaſure at a Loſs, what Terms, what Expreſſions will be expreſſive enough to accommodate my Sentiments upon the Occaſion: I muſt really beg to be excus'd. But if you will needs urge me to declare my ſelf one way or t'other, all I can ſay, is,

Non equidem invideo; miror magis! ——

For, after a careful Peruſal of it, a Second and a Third time, reflecting upon the *Author*, as a *Doctor*, as a *Maſter* of a College, as an *Archdeacon*, as one that is writing to the Right Reverend the Lord Biſhop of *Ely*, his *Viſitor*; and Publiſhing, or conſenting to the Publication of what he writes: Reflecting upon the *Matter*; as ſtuff'd with little, ſpiteful, dirty Tales and Recriminations; with Contradictions, with palpable Forgeries, with ſtudy'd Miſrepreſentations, and the meaneſt and pooreſt Cavilings, altogether wide from the Purpoſe; without ſo much as one ſolid, *honeſt* Argument, from the Beginning to the End: Reflecting upon the *Form* and *Manner* of it; with what a *Faſtus*, how full, and thence how forgetful of Himſelf, and with what a want of Deference he behaves himſelf towards his Superior, before whom he ſtands as a Defendent; how he aſſumes, how he dictates and preſcribes to the

Viſitor, with a *Supercilious* Air; how he vilifies his *Predeceſſors* and his *Judge*; and with what an Unchriſtian, what an inſulting Bitterneſs he defames and tramples upon the whole Body of the *Univerſity*, without Ground or Provocation: —— Indeed, Sir, you muſt excuſe me; —— I can't, I am unwilling, I am unable to find a proper Denomination for ſo unparallel'd a Performance.

But ſince we have undertaken to examine the Particulars, 'tis time to ſet about it. I take it for granted, Sir, you have the Book by you: So I ſha'n't trouble my ſelf to tranſcribe either the Petition, or the Liſts of Names, or any more of the Letter it ſelf, than juſt what is neceſſary, in order to let you apprehend what I am ſpeaking of.

Dr. *Bentley* objects in the *Fifth* Page of the Book, That the Petition is "a looſe, incoherent "Draught of General Accuſations." Now, Sir, you are to know that this Petition was revis'd and approv'd by ſome of Her Majeſty's *Council* at *Law*: And I preſume there are *none* among *Them*, whom you will not allow to underſtand all the due *Forms* of Petitioning, at leaſt as well as Dr. *Bentley*. And I think any Man of common Obſervation might reply, That Petitions upon theſe Occaſions are deſign'd merely to get a *Hearing*; to make way for, and bring on the Cauſe: And that therefore a *Draught of General Accuſations*, may, and ought to be reckon'd *ſufficient* to all the Intents and Purpoſes of a *Petition*. However, be this Matter as it will, 'tis agreed by moſt People, that *Silence* and *Neglect* had been much more *Safe* and *Prudent*, than ſuch an *Anſwer* as *He* has given. And the Petition won'd have had never the more *Weight with my Lord of Ely*, for *His* ſaying nothing *againſt* it.

"He objects in the *same* Page, "That in all the "Circumstances of its coming before my Lord "the Visitor, 'tis contrary to the due Forms di-"rected and injoin'd by Statute." I told you, Sir, before, if you remember, what the Statute *directs and injoins* in this Case. It directs and injoins the *Eight Seniors, or the Major Part of 'em*, to lay open the whole Matter to the *Visitor*: But it *forbids no other* Members, by Subscription, or in Person, to *concur*, to attend and wait upon 'em in that Errand. And therefore as a farther Answer, let us turn to the 32d. Page of his Letter: *For what does Dr.* Bentley *understand by* Unstatutable? *No doubt but such things as are not expressly mention'd in Statutes. What can be said to a Man that thinks and reasons so shrewdly? As if whatsoever was not nam'd in the Statutes, was upon that Account against, or contrary to the Statutes.*

In the *Sixth* Page, he says, "The Matter of the "Petition is false and malicious in every Part." But this is only a *Draught of General Accusations*, which, 'till they shall be supported with particular Instances, can have no Weight at all with my Lord of *Ely*, or any one else. These Points are now under Examination; and if *Falshood* and *Malice* can't be prov'd upon *Us*, 'tis evident there *must* lie a great deal of *Both* somewhere *Else*.

In the same Page he transcribes Our Endorsement, "The Petition of *the Fellows* of *Trinity-*"*College* against Dr. *Bentley*." His Remark upon it is this. "Your Lordship easily sees a *Falshood* "in the very Title of this Paper. The Fellows "in common SENSE and LANGUAGE, ought "to signify no less than all the Fellows." Then in the very next immediate Page following, he transcribes an Endorsement my Lord of *Ely* had added with his *Own Hand*. "I receiv'd this Ap-

"peal

peal from *the Fellows* of *Trinity* College, *&c.*" Where, I'm afraid my Lord *Visitor eaſily* perceives what a very egregious Compliment Dr. *Bentley* has paſs'd upon his Lordſhip.

Dr. *Bentley*, Sir, you ſee, like a bold *Briton*, is not afraid to charge my Lord of *Ely*, his *Viſitor*, with FALSHOOD, and with want of COMMON SENSE and LANGUAGE. And, ſince his Lordſhip is Our *Viſitor* as well as His; ſince, abſtracting from that, he is a Right Reverend Prelate, and a Perſon for whom, upon all accounts, we have a great and juſt Veneration: I don't know why I ſhould be afraid to *aſſert* his Lordſhip's *Judgment* and *Integrity*, in Defiance to One who is ſo hardy as to call them in *Queſtion*. His Lordſhip writ nothing, I dare ſay, but what he thought was juſt and proper: And yet I dare ſay too, that nobody, beſides Dr. *Bentley*, will affirm his Lordſhip has, in that Endorſement written with his own Hand, betray'd any Symptoms of *Falſhood*, or want of *Common Senſe*. Let us try, Sir, how far my Lord of *Ely* and the *Subſcribers* may be defended in this Article.

"The Fellows in Common Senſe and Lan-
"guage ought to ſignify no leſs than All the Fel-
"lows." This is Dr. *Bentley*'s Poſition. And I, Sir, in direct Oppoſition to this *recent* Axiom of his, ſhall not ſcruple to declare, that ſuch a large Acceptation of the Words is Abſurd and Senſeleſs, and by no means agreeable to the Rules of *Common Language*. The Propoſition in the Endorſement, by the Rules of *Logic* and right Reaſon, is an *Indefinite* Propoſition. The Nature of an *Indefinite* Propoſition varies according to the *Matter* about which it is conceiv'd to be converſant: If the *Matter* of an *Indefinite* Propoſition be only *Contingent*; That *Indefinite* Propoſition is equi-

valent

valent *only* to a *Particular* Propoſition: But if the *Matter* of an *Indefinite* Propoſition be either *Neceſſary* or *Impoſſible*, Such an *Indefinite* Propoſition will be equivalent to a *Univerſal* Propoſition. For Example; if the Propoſition in the Endorſement had *affirm'd* that the *Fellows* of *Trinity* College were *Men*, or *deny'd* them to be *Saſh Windows*; Either of Theſe would have made it equivalent to a *Univerſal* Propoſition: Becauſe the *Matter*, in One Caſe, would have been *Neceſſary*, and in the Other *Impoſſible*. But the Propoſition in the Endorſement implying *only* that the *Fellows* of *Trinity* College are *aggriev'd* by Dr. *Bentley*; This makes it equivalent *only* to a *Particular* Propoſition: Becauſe we humbly conceive that the *Matter*, that is to ſay, our being *aggriev'd* by Dr. *Bentley*, is neither *Neceſſary*, nor *Impoſſible*, but merely *Contingent*. Unleſs therefore Dr. *Bentley* can prove, That We are *Neceſſarily* to be *aggriev'd* by him, I'm afraid the Endorſement will ſtand good: I'm afraid He *muſt own*, *tho' never ſo unwillingly*, that it is neither *Falſe*, nor defective in point of *Common Senſe and Language*; but that the Falſhood and the Nonſenſe he ſpeaks of, ought, by all means, to be ſent back to the Place from whence they came; to the Place from whence *His Letter* is dated.

Beſides, Sir, in ſuch a numerous Society, no Governor can be ſuppos'd to oppreſs every individual Man at ſuch a rate, but that *ſome few* among them may, by Ways and Means, eſpecially by a Perſon of Dr. *Bentley*'s Dexterity, be brought over not only to *endure* quietly, but to *approve* his Proceedings; much more to maintain a *Neutrality*; ſo far at leaſt as to forbear *ſubſcribing* any *Complaint* intended to be exhibited againſt him. And therefore, unleſs it be reaſonable to conclude, with Dr. *Bentley*, that the Complaint

of *Half* or a *Third* Part of the Society ought not at all to be regarded by the *Visitor*, becauſe the Reſt of the Members are not ſo ready to join in it; becauſe Some perhaps have had a *Sop*; and Others, by a Natural Timidity, avoid engaging in the Contention; unleſs it will follow, that, as Dr. *Bentley* argues, the *Majority* of the College is abſolutely well ſatisfied, and at *Peace*, becauſe *every Man* of it is not actually up in *Arms*, but many are Drowzy and Liftleſs; for *ubi Deſidia & Torpor eſt, Pacem vocat:* Unleſs This will paſs for true Reaſoning, the *Petition* is good and valid; and the *Fellows*, in Common Senſe and Language, *may* ſignify *leſs* than *all the Fellows*.

In the *Sixth* Page, Dr. *Bentley*, ſpeaking of *all* the *Fellows*, reckons the whole Number to be *Sixty five*: Whereas 'tis very certain we have but *Sixty* in all. And Dr. *Bentley*, towards the latter End of his Book, where he propoſes his Scheme for *Dividends*, makes them *no more* than Sixty: For Sixteen and Forty Four, *as any School-Boy will tell us*, make but Sixty in all. *Sixty five Fellows in all*, at the Beginning of the Letter, and *but Sixty in all* toward the End of it, *condemn the Whole for a Forgery*. Where are the *young Men that are fitly qualify'd for Meaſuring of Work?* And that *yearly exhibit their Books without Error or Puzzle?* We want 'em mightily to clear up this Confuſion of Accounts; to tell us what Dr. *Bentley* means by it; whether he puts *Sixty five* at the Beginning, *ad augendam invidiam*; or whether he does it merely by the *Infallibility* of *Arbitrio Magiſtri*?

His Objection about *Promiſes and Threats, and other unfair ways*, ſhall be anſwered and retorted in due Time and Place; when we come to the 54th Page of this Book. In the mean while, Dr. *Bentley* obſerves, that *One of the Subſcribers was Dead before the Paper was preſented.* Therefore the Mat-

Matter of the Petition muſt needs be *falſe* and *malicious* in every Part! - - - *Voilà un Homme raiſonnable celui-là!* As if the Opinion of Dr. *Creſſer* would have ever the leſs Weight with my Lord the *Viſitor*, becauſe the Doctor himſelf is now dead and gone. This Dr. *Creſſar*, nobody will deny to have been a Man of Sobriety, Learning, good Judgment and Probity, and well skill'd in College Affairs. He ſubſcrib'd in the Time of his Sickneſs, but in the full Strength and Enjoyment of his Underſtanding and Judgment. And from thence it may fairly be concluded, that He took the Grievances complain'd of by the *Petitioners*, to be *real* and *great*, and ſuch as call'd for a *Redreſs*; and for *ſuch* a Redreſs too, as the College muſt deſpair of obtaining, but from the Wiſdom and Juſtice of the *Viſitor*.

"Two more (ſays Dr. *Bently*, in the ſame 6th "Page) were no Members of the College, even "when they ſubſcrib'd". But you apprehend, Sir, I ſuppoſe, perfectly well, that Mr. *Miller*'s being a Member, or no Member, is a Queſtion in *Diſpute*: 'Tis left by Us to the Determination of my Lord the *Viſitor*; and his being, as we imagine, *arbitrarily* ejected, makes One Article of the Appeal. And therefore, Dr. *Bentley*'s pretending to come with a high Hand, and ſuperſede the Judgment of the Viſitor, while this very Point of Mr. *Miller*'s being a Member, or no Member, is actually depending; What is it but violently wreſting the Matter out of my Lord of *Ely*'s Hands? What is it, but ſuch an Indignity as, I believe, was never yet put upon any *Viſitor, to his Face*, and before ſo great an Aſſembly, before all the World, *ſince the Univerſity had a Being?*

The Other Gentleman who, as Dr. *Bentley* ſays, is no Member, is Dr. *Brodrick*. This Gentleman, Sir, has his *Name* ſtill kept amongſt us; but

but whether, in Strictneſs, he is a real Member or no, yet he has apparently an Intereſt in the *Dividends* which Dr. *Bentley* ſays are ready for us Now; but which he propoſes to have divided in a partial and hitherto unpractis'd way: And this *new unpractis'd way* being *alſo* an *Article* in the Petition, 'tis evident that Dr. *Brodrick*'s Subſcription, with regard at leaſt to *This Article*, is very proper and pleadable.

Dr. *Bentley* goes on, in the *ſame* Page ſtill, to object that "Three Others ſubſcribe in ſuch Ex-"preſſions as they do not join in the Accuſati-"on." Had I been *Caſuiſt* good enough, Sir, to diſcern the mighty Difference between *Their* Expreſſions, and what the *Reſt* of the Petitioners expreſs, in the Cloſe of the Petition, by *humbly craving in due time ſuch Sentence as to his Lordſhip's Wiſdom and Juſtice ſhall ſeem meet*; poſſibly I had not wanted a ſmall *Preface* to ſet off my Name with. For pray, Sir, what *are* the Matters mention'd in the Petition? Are they not Matters of *Accuſation* and Complaint? Very well. All the Difference then between Thoſe *Three* Gentlemen, and Us the *Reſt* of the Subſcribers, I take to conſiſt in this: That *We* are *Neceſſitated* to Petition and Complain, and humbly to crave Sentence from his Lordſhip's Wiſdom and Juſtice: Whereas *They deſire*, They are *forward*, They are *eager* and *preſſing* that *All Matters mention'd in the Petition, may be referr'd to* his Lordſhip's *Cognizance* and *Determination*.

Indeed, if I had dreamt of their being referr'd to any body elſe *beſides* my L. of *Ely*, I don't know but I ſhou'd have deſired the ſame that is mention'd by Dr. *Colbatch*: But it happen'd that I had *then* no ſuch Apprehenſions: And ſo 'tis no great Matter. Dr. *Bentley* has perfectly thwarted and croſs'd Their expreſs *Deſires*, by referring 'em to the Cognizance and

and Determination of *all Mankind*; He has only deceiv'd Us a little in our *Expectations*, by an Action so *absurd*, so very preposterous and unprecedented, that Our great Respect for him wou'd not suffer us to *imagine* He could ever have done it. So that in the whole, we are pretty much upon a *Par*, on both Sides: And *they* were altogether as much *out*, in the Opinion they had of his *Good Nature*; as *we* were, in the Opinion we had of his *Discretion*.

"Two more, says Dr. *Bentley* in the *same Paragraph*, have not resided; and more of them "have been absent much the greater part of my "Ten Years; two of them order their Subscriptions by Letter; and several of 'em have since "acknowledg'd they mistook the Design of it." But will any Man say it is impossible for all these People to have had a true and exact Account of the State of the College? And, for Subscribing by Letter, is it credible that People should give themselves the trouble of writing Letters, on purpose to order their Subscriptions, to what they know Nothing at all of? And as to mistaking the Design, it is not *possible* they *should* mistake the Design of redressing such and such Grievances: And as to any *other* Design, it can be of no Importance whether they mistook it or not. For, if the Design, supposed to be Mistaken, is not Just, it can never *succeed* under my Lord the *Visitor*; and if it can never *succeed*, where's the Danger, either One way or t'Other, either of Mistaking or of not Mistaking it? Since *that* Design, 'tis plain, whatever it be, is not the *main* Design of the Petition.

"Six more, says Dr. *Bentley* there, have been "under College Censures for Immoralities and "Crimes; And lastly, most of the Remainder "are Men of such profligate Lives, so unquali-

"fy'd

" fy'd every way for the Stations they hold, &c."
You see, Sir, here are men of *profligate Lives*;
and you read, in the 26th and 28th Pages, of
Wretches that are *every way Worthless*; and yet,
as worthless as they are, of Several Others *that are*
much more Vile and Worthless than They. And these,
Sir, if you take notice, are Characters contra-
distinguish'd from those of the *Six* that have been
under *Censures for Immoralities and Crimes*. My
Lord of *Ely* may well wonder that *such* Men are
suffer'd amongst us; but what must his Lordship
think when he observes, that tho' all those a-
bovementionn'd Censures were inflicted solely by
the Master, whose proper and immediate Busi-
ness it is to animadvert upon Delinquents, yet
none of these *wretched, profligate, worthless* Crea-
tures have ever been under any College Censure
at all? Very fine Discipline! Mighty good Dis-
cipline! What must his Lordship think to see
that *such* should dare to Accuse? Nay, what must
Any one think, but that Men so very Obnoxious
wou'd never venture to engage in an Appeal to
the *Visitor*, if, as to all Matters refer'd to in the
Appeal, they had not certainly a great deal of
Right and Reason on their Side.

I was resolv'd, Sir, I would go quite through
this Paragraph, because it seems really to be a
Master-piece, both for the *Matter*, and also for
the *Stile* and *Diction* of it. The *Matter* we have
consider'd already: And for the *Stile*, I'll assure
you it is every way answerable. For what can
be more entertaining, what can be more artfully
and exquisitely varied, than the several Clauses it
is compact of? There are no more than Thirty
Names says Dr. *Bentley*; and of those *Thirty* there
was *One* — and *Two more* — and *Three others* — and
Two more — and *More of them* — and *Two of them*
— and *several of 'em* — and *Six more* — and *last-*
ly

ly, *Moſt of the Remainder* —— Which, you know, Sir, with the *reſt* of the Remainder, make in all juſt *Thirty*; not a ſingle individual Man over or under. This is exactly upon the ſame Model with the *Exerciſe at Arms* of the *Artillery* Company, celebrated ſome time ſince, by the Learned *Iſaac Bickerſtaff*; and may ſerve as a proper *Appendix* to the Curious Orders given out by that Heroic and Critical Fraternity.

Our next Remark, Sir, muſt be upon the laſt Paragraph of the Seventh Page. Where Dr. *Bentley* is of Opinion, my Lord of *Ely will pleaſe to obſerve* that what was nam'd in our Endorſement the Petition of *the Fellows*, now *dwindles* into the Petition of *Many of them*. But for my part, Sir, I ſhould think I offer'd a great *Affront* to any Man of Underſtanding, if I ſuppos'd him *capable* of Obſerving any ſuch Diſagreement between the Endorſement, and the Petition it ſelf: Since nothing can be more Obvious, than that the Petition and the Endorſement muſt, in *Common Senſe and Language*, mean the ſame thing; And that neither of them can have any Other Meaning than this; That it is a Petition ſubſcrib'd by Many of the Fellows, in behalf of *Themſelves and the Reſt*. Dr. *Bentley*, indeed, urges with much Triumph, that *Our Many* are the *Minor* Part of the Society. But as for Superiority of *Number*, we conceive that in Drawing up Appeals, we are not tied to any Preſcriptions that may be taken out of *Wingate*'s Arithmetic; and with regard to a Superiority of *Worth* and *Reputation*, for my Own Particular, it wou'd not at all become Me, neither am I diſpos'd, by any means, to diſpute the Precedence with any of thoſe Gentlemen whom he *reckons* to be of His *Party*: There are *many* of them for whom I have a Value and Reſpect; there are Several of them

with whom I have a more than ordinary *Friendſhip*, and Intimacy of Acquaintance; And therefore, if it were only out of Gratitude, I muſt ſay thus much,

Occurrunt animæ, quales neq; candidiores
Terra tulit; neq; quas me ſit devinctior alter.

And the truth on't is, conſidering how Dr. *Bentley* has bedawb'd them with an ignominious, with a degrading, ſcandalous way of Commendation, I think I can never ſay too much in their Favour: For let the World judge the beſt they can of 'em upon Dr. *Bentley*'s Character, yet when We, on t'Other ſide, by way of *Foil*, are deſcrib'd as ſuch an *immoral*, ſuch a *profligate*, ſuch a *vile*, and *every way*, nay and *more* than every way, *worthleſs Gang*; People of Senſe, I doubt, will hardly take it for ſuch a mighty Feather in their Caps, tho' they ſhould really be allowed to be *the very Flower and the main Hope of the College, for their Learning and Sobriety.*

In the beginning of the 8th Page, Dr. *Bentley* is highly incens'd, and expects my Lord of *Ely* ſhou'd be ſo too, at the *Calumny and Impudence* of that Expreſſion, *in behalf of the Reſt.* But this is another groſs Miſtake, which flows naturally from that πρῶτον ψεῦδος, that grand leading Miſtake he at firſt ſet out with, in the *Sixth* Page. For having there dogmatically pronounc'd, I ſuppoſe for his own Convenience, that *the Fellows*, in common Senſe and Language, ought to ſignify no leſs than *all the Fellows*; what Wonder is it he ſhould Obſerve that what was nam'd, in the Endorſement, the Petition of *the Fellows*, now *dwindles* into the Petition of *Many* of 'em? What Wonder is it he ſhou'd be alarm'd at the Calumny and Impudence of thoſe Words, *In behalf*

behalf of the Reſt? No body takes *him* to be a Man that will ever flinch, or retract any Paradox he has once advanc'd, tho' never ſo Abſurd and Ridiculous.

Let us try this ranting Obſervation of his, Sir, by the Rule he himſelf has produc'd in his next Page, from the 40th Chapter of the Statutes: "By the expreſs Words of that Statute, ſays Dr. "*Bentley*, the Eight Seniors, or the major part of "'em (*and no others*) are (*in Perſon*) to lay "open the whole Matter to the Viſitor." The Original Words of the Statute, as Dr. *Bentley* has tranſcrib'd them in the Margin, are theſe: "*Vice,* "*Magiſter & reliqui Seniores, vel major pars eorum,* "*rem omnem* Viſitatori *aperiant.*" How He comes, in his Interpretation, to clap in (*and no others*) and (*in Perſon*) I ſhan't give my ſelf the trouble to ask him: But by a fair and genuine Conſtruction of this Original Paſſage, the Senſe and Deſign of the Founders I look upon to have been this. "The Vice-Maſter, and the reſt of the "Seniors, or the major part of them, We ap-"point, we lay it as a *Duty* upon *Them*, we ſtrait-"ly charge and require *Them* to lay open the "whole Matter to the *Viſitor*: But as to any *other* "Members, We lay *no* Commands upon *Them* in "this Caſe, one way or t'other; We neither re-"quire, nor *forbid* 'em to aſſiſt and attend upon "the Seniors in the Execution of this our Or-"der."

Wherefore, if (as Dr. *Bentley* himſelf muſt allow) the Eight Seniors, or the Major Part of them, may Statutably lay open to the Viſitor the Grievances of the College, in behalf of themſelves and the reſt of the Members; What? will the expreſs Concurrence of about Twenty more of the Fellows, that have joyn'd with them in this Appeal to the *Viſitor*, make it a *Calumny* and

Impudence in these Seniors to use this Expression, *In Behalf of the Rest*, which they might regularly have us'd in such an Appeal, tho' not *one* Fellow of the College, below the Eight Seniors, had in any wise signify'd his good liking of the Appeal?

As a further Answer therefore to what he here objects, we might again recur to the 52d. Page of his own Book; and ask what Dr. *Bentley* understands by *Unstatutable*, &c.? Which indeed may serve for a full Answer to most of his Objections and Arguments.

And yet, Sir, Dr. *Bentley* assures himself, by vertue of that Clause of the Statute just before produc'd; "My Lord of *Ely* will please to think, "that our Complaints cannot be legally laid be-"fore his Lordship by Mr. *Miller*, nor by any O-"thers that are not of the Seniority." Mr. *Miller*, and several *others*, who are not of the Seniority, have a Commission, from the *Majority* of the *Seniors*, to lay before my Lord *Visitor* the Complaint of the Fellows against the *Master*. This is plain; for the Names of *all* the Eight *Resident* Seniors are actually subscrib'd to the *Petition*; and *Six* of these are true *Sworn Seniors*, whether they had been Resident or no. And there is not the least Ground from the Statute alleg'd by Dr. *Bentley*, to make us conclude that such a Commission as this is no Rightful and Lawful Commission, for those that have it, *to lay before the Visitor the Complaint of the Fellows against the Master*. So that what the *Master* urges upon this Head, is no better, to make the most of it, than assuming a Point arbitrarily, and is therefore a flat downright Begging the very Question in Dispute.

But, Sir, we are extremely oblig'd to Dr. *Bentley* for helping us out in this Exigency: For in his next Paragraph he does Us Justice, and answers himself

Himſelf, unanſwerably, with a Witneſs. He is endeavouring to ſtrengthen his Interpretation of the Statute, by aſſigning a *Reaſon* why the Eight Seniors *ALONE* are declar'd to be the proper Complainers. The Reaſon, he ſays, is obviouſly thus: Becauſe they *alone* can know *Matter of Fact* in *all* Affairs *relating to the Government of the College.* Hereupon, Sir, I am *willing and bold to ſay*, that in all my Life-time I never yet met with a more precarious, a more jejune and weak, and contradictory Aſſertion, than this that he is pleas'd to deliver to the World for a Demonſtration. And, to make the Fallacy ſtill more apparent and conſpicuous, he immediately ſubjoins the following Sentence. "The Maſter and "Eight Seniors debate and determine all theſe "Tranſactions in private Meetings, excluſive of "all others; and upon Penalty none is to reveal "to any Member of the Houſe, what paſſes at "ſuch Meetings." I think, Sir, that to *debate* and to *determine*, are Words of a very *different* Signification. I think that tho' we are not of the *Council*, we may know the *Determinations* of the *Council*; tho' we are not acquainted with the particular Series of Tranſactions at private Meetings, tho' we are not acquainted with the whole Proceſs of the *Debates*, yet we may know *Matter of Fact* in Affairs relating to the Government of the College: Nay, I think it implies an Abſurdity, to ſay we *cannot* know Matter of Fact in Affairs relating to the Government of the College.

It might at leaſt as well be argued, that becauſe I was not actually upon the Place, becauſe I don't know all the Minutes, becauſe I can't deſcribe all the Circumſtances, becauſe I am not able to ſay preciſely how every individual Common Soldier behav'd himſelf on both Sides; who

was Baſhful, as they call it, and who was firm, and brave, and intrepid, during the Engagement; therefore I can't poſſibly know, that there was a glorious Battel fought, and won by the *Allies*, at *Blenheim*, in ſuch a Year, under his Grace my Lord Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene*: But that the *Generals* and General Officers *alone* can know Matter of Fact *in all Affairs* relating to the *War*; becauſe They *Debate* and *Determine* all thoſe Tranſactions *in private Meetings exclusive of all Others*.

The Paſſage which Dr. *Bentley* brings, by way of Confirmation, from the Statutes, "That "upon Penalty none is to reveal to any other "Member of the Houſe what paſſes at ſuch "Meetings": This Paſſage makes nothing at all for his Purpoſe, but rather the contrary. For what Conſtruction wou'd an unaddicted Interpreter put upon theſe Words? - - - - - - *Ne quiſpiam acto Seniorum, poſt Conſultationem de negotiis quibuſcunque, dicta vel facta, in hujuſmodi rebus* Intervenientia, *revelet*? Wou'd n't it be ſufficient to ſay, that our Founders, knowing very well the Paſſions and Infirmities of Humane Nature, and that, in all Debates, it is common, out of Heat and Contention, for the ſeveral Parties to betray many little Indecencies of Expreſſion and Behaviour; did therefore prohibit under Penalty that any *Senior* ſhould divulge, or ſhould publickly upbraid any of the Reſt for ſuch *Intervening*, ſuch *Incidental* Matters, as muſt, if they ſhould be laid open, not only bring the Board into Diſgrace, and leſſen the Credit of the Senate, in the Eyes of thoſe over whom they Preſide; but create perpetual Variance, Enmity, and Diſtraction in all their Conſultations? Is n't this probably the adequate Scope and Deſign of that Clauſe? Muſt it needs be extended to

the

the very *Result*, to the very *Iſſue* and *Determination* of all their Meetings, Tranſactions and Debates? Wou'd n't ſuch a wide and comprehenſive Interpretation, as Dr. *Bentley* ſeems here to obtrude upon his Reader, plainly evacuate, and make a mere *Jeſt* of ſuch Meetings and Tranſactions?

Thus you ſee, Sir, how ſtrangely Dr. *Bentley* overſhoots himſelf in this Matter; ſince, by proving a great deal *More* than he ſhould do, he proves juſt Nothing at all: At leaſt (I mean) nothing at all againſt Us, nothing at all to his Own Purpoſe, much leſs any thing to his own Advantage and Reputation. For, admitting His Rule to be true, what a Number of Abſurdities might we reduce him to? There is hardly any Act almoſt we can name, of the *Maſter* and *Seniors*, but will properly come under the Notion of Affairs *relating to the Government* of the College: And yet, in ſpight of this, Dr. *Bentley* is pleas'd to affirm, that the *Seniors Alone* can ſtatutably know *Matter of Fact* in *All Affairs* relating to the *Government* of the College.

I need not tell you, Sir, That to make a Fellow, or a Scholar of the Houſe, as we call 'em, to diſpoſe of a Lectureſhip, to beſtow any College Living, or any School upon any Man, to appoint any Officer, to nominate ſo much as a Cook or a Butler, to vote any Dividend, to paſs any College Cenſure; all theſe, are Tranſactions debated and determin'd in Private: But it ſeems all this ought to be done with the utmoſt *Secrecy*; for, upon *Penalty*, none is to reveal to any *Other Member of the Houſe* what paſſes.

Will it not follow now, Sir, do what we can, from Dr. *Bentley*'s Principles, That when, about Six or Seven Years ago, I became Fellow of *Trinity* College, this Matter of *Fact* ought to

have been kept from *Me*, as a great *Secret*, and by no means to have been *reveal'd to any other Member of the Houſe*? That whenever any Dividend of *Money* is voted, it ought to be done under the Seal of *Secrecy*, and never be divulg'd ſo as that any *Other Member of the Houſe* ſhall be ever the Wiſer? That when, ſome time ſince, a *Layman* was, by the *Maſter*, made College *Chaplain*, with leave to continue his Double Capacity for ſeven Years, tho' the *Statutes* expreſly ſay that every *Chaplain*, as ſuch, ſhall be in *Prieſt's Orders*; will it not follow, that This thing ſhould have been determin'd under the Roſe, and ſo as never to take Air, or get among any *other Members of the Houſe*? When Mr. *Miller* was cut out of his Fellowſhip, and *Six Other* Fellows brought under *College Cenſures*, will it not follow that Theſe Tranſactions, and theſe Matters of Fact, being debated and determin'd in *Private*, by the *Maſter alone*, excluſive of all the *Seniors*, muſt have been ſtill greater *Secrets* than all the reſt? ——— But the *Maſter* is exempt from all *Penalty*, and may reveal whatever He pleaſes.—— In the mean time, Sir, is n't this Trifling to the laſt Degree? Is n't this as errand *Fallacy* as ever was put upon the World in Print?

Yet thus *low* is Dr. *Bentley* fain to ſtoop for Objections, rather than want ſomething to ſay againſt the Validity of Our *Subſcribing*! So *very* low, that he perfectly *cancels* all Orders and Determinations of the Maſter and Seniors, in Affairs *relating to the Government* of the College; which can *bind* no farther than they are *known*, and which are ſuppos'd to be made for that very *End* that they *may* be *known*, ſubmitted and conform'd to, by the *Other Members of the Houſe*.

When, therefore, Dr. *Bentley* inſiſts, That the Seniors *Alone can know Matters of Fact in All Affairs*

fairs relating to the Government of the College; That *They* and the *Maſter debate* and *determine all thoſe Tranſactions in Private Meetings*; That *upon Penalty none is to reveal to any Other Member of the Houſe what paſſes at ſuch Meetings*; That *We cannot lawfully Complain againſt the Maſter* becauſe we *can know Nothing Perſonally, but barely by ſuch Report as is poſitively forbid by the Statute*: Whom does he *diſable* moſt, by ſuch a Way of Arguing? Us or Himſelf? While he raiſes an irreconcileable Oppoſition between the End and the Means, and makes them, unavoidably, defeat, elude, and fruſtrate One another?

Again, Sir, When Dr. *Bentley* asks my Lord of *Ely* this Queſtion; "What muſt one think "of ſuch Subſcribers as have generally abſent-"ed?" He manifeſtly takes it for granted, that thoſe Gentlemen can have no Account of the State of the College but *by ſuch Report as is poſitively forbid by Statute*. Nay, he ſeems to go upon an *Axiom* of the *Deiſts*, That *Authority* and Teſtimony can have no Influence at all upon a Man, ſo as to gain over his *Aſſent*; that this is only a *prohibited* means of *Information*; and that nothing leſs than *Evidence*, or Ocular Demonſtration, can be a *reaſonable* Ground of *Perſuaſion*.

If we purſue the Conſequences of theſe Principles, whither will they lead us? We can conclude no leſs from 'em, than that whatever Grievances and Oppreſſions the *Junior Fellows* may labour under, by the Maſter's Means, they muſt expect no Redreſs from the *Viſitor*: For who ſhall lay their *Complaints* before him? Not *They Themſelves*; becauſe they cannot know *Matter of Fact*; *They can know nothing Perſonally, but barely by ſuch Report as is poſitively forbid by Statute*. But mayn't the *Seniors* then do it for 'em? No; nor They nei-

neither: For it would be a *Calumny* and *Impudence* in *Them* to Complain againſt the *Maſter*, in behalf of the REST.

This is as firm and direct as any thing can be, for an *Abſolute, Arbitrary* Power in the *Maſter*. 'Tis what Dr. *Bentley* has proved, upon his Own Principles, to be neceſſary and irrefragable. 'Tis the Point in which he has exerted all his Might and Strength; and with which he ſums up and cloſes his Letter to the Biſhop of *Ely*. Should the *Seniors* pretend to lay any Complaint of *Ours*, againſt the *Maſter*, before the *Viſitor*, they would ſee themſelves as ſhamefully routed, as ever Men were: For Dr. *Bentley* would ſoon begin to expoſtulate with the *Viſitor*, and ſay, "But what, my "Lord, have WE to do to petition and complain "for what THEY ſuffer'd? I am not at all obliged "to anſwer, till either WE are the Sufferers, or "THEY complain in their *Own* Name and Behalf. And then, Sir, that We the *Juniors*, who are Sufferers, ſhould have any Right to complain; or that the *Seniors* ſhould have any Right to complain in *Our Name and Behalf*; Both theſe, Dr. *Bentley* knows very well, as good luck wou'd have it, are againſt the *Suppoſition*.

So that nothing can be more convincingly made out, than the *unlimited Power* of our Sovereign, Dr. *Bentley*. For, if no Complaint can be made, or heard by any body, againſt Dr. *Bentley*, then (to borrow a little of *Sancho*'s Reaſoning) there is no body can call him to Account; and He that can't be call'd to Account, is Abſolute; and He that is Abſolute, can do what he pleaſes; and He that can do what he pleaſes, can certainly have no body to controul him; and He that has no body to controul him, can do what he pleaſes, can't he? Nor let any one preſume to contradict Dr. *Bentley* in theſe Particulars, unleſs it

be upon the ſame Conditions which *Zerbin* fix'd at the Foot of *Orlando's* Armour.

Let none but He theſe Arms diſplace,
Who dares Orlando's *Fury face.*

I don't pretend, Sir, to be *every* way a Match for *Orlando*, tho' I have been ſo bold as to meddle with his *Armour*. The Reaſon why I have gone ſo far, and dwelt ſo long upon this Article of the *Junior* Fellows Right of *Petitioning*, is, becauſe what Dr. *Bentley* has advanc'd againſt it, might bear a plauſible Appearance of *Argument* with many People, if the *Sophiſtry* of it had not been detected to the Bottom.

But Dr. *Bentley*, Sir, is reſolv'd to accumulate Objections upon the *Petitioners*, and overpower 'em, if it be poſſible, by mere Multiplicity of Evaſions. Why elſe ſhou'd he take the Pains to allege the Defect of Another Circumſtance requir'd by the Statute? This he does in the middle of his 10th Page. And what he urges there, carries the Matter higher than any thing he had ſaid before. For we are told, that before ever the *Seniors* can legally accuſe the Maſter to the *Viſitor*, "They are firſt to try fair means in private, in "Order to his Amendment; they are (as they "will anſwer at the Day of Judgment) to admo-"niſh him with all Lenity and Modeſty; and if "he do not amend upon One Admonition, they "are to do ſo again: And if after both theſe Ad-"vices, he do not amend; then, and not before, "they are to open the Matter to the *Viſitor*.

But here, in the Firſt Place, Sir, it is to be obſerv'd, that there is no particular *Form* of Admonition preſcrib'd by the *Statute*, any farther than what is imply'd by thoſe *General* Words of doing it with all *Lenity and Modeſty*. And we may add

to

to this, that in *some Cases*, the *Statutes* do oblige the *Seniors* to complain of the *Master* to the *Visitor*, without any private Admonition at all: And, with Regard to those Cases, where a previous Admonition is requir'd, it may be consider'd, whether a Persevering, an Amicable, and Constant *Remonstrance*, and Standing out against such and such Acts and Demands of the *Master*; may not be thought to reach the *Meaning* of the *Statutes*, and at least be interpreted a *Modest*, *Mild*, and *Gentle Admonition*?

Dr. *Bentley*, having hitherto argu'd against the *Endorsement*, and the *Petition* at large, concludes this Part of his Letter, by intimating to my Lord of *Ely*, that he is far from declining an *Enquiry* into his Conduct; that he is rather dispos'd to invite the *Subscribers* to go on in their particular Allegations; as not questioning but he shall do himself Publick Right. But then, I doubt, Sir, the great Sollicitude, and the more than *Common* Warmth, that appears throughout his Letter, will suggest very different Apprehensions to most Readers, and make 'em apt to believe, that his Style and his Matter, was contriv'd and accommodated rather by way of Terror, than of Invitation to the Petitioners. As for his Lordship's *considering, Whether He can determine upon the Information or no*; I confess, I am *strongly tempted* to persuade my self, that his Lordship is a very competent Judge of the *Part* he is to act, upon this Occasion, without the Assistance of a *Monitor*.

Dr. *Bentley* now proceeds to the Petition it self; and to examine the particular Flaws of every Period in it. The First, he takes Notice of, is in the 11th Page. In the *Petition* it is said, "That the Fellows, and all the Members having, "for many Years, lived with a great Respect and "Love to their former Masters, and in a perfect

"Amity

Amity one with another, *&c.* To which Dr. *Bentley* is pleas'd to Object, That the Subscribers *actually mean and must mean*, the *Present* Fellows: — And all with a Design of Reducing Us to this Absurdity: That tho' *many* of the *present* Fellows never liv'd at all under *former Masters*; yet We *affirm and must affirm*, That *all the present* Fellows liv'd with Respect and Love to their *former Masters*.

If it be necessary or expedient, for Dr. *Bentley* to *pervert* our Words to an *absurd* Meaning; it is, at least, as necessary and expedient for *Us*, to *restore* 'em to their *true* Meaning, which is *not* Absurd. And, I must needs own, I take the Argument of the *Petition* to be wrong stated by Dr. *Bentley*. If indeed the Petition had expresly concluded the *Fellows*, in that Place, under the Limitation of such a certain Number of Years; such a *Limitation* might perhaps have imply'd a Repugnancy between the several Parts of the Argument. But, as the Clause is worded, I see no Necessity, either from the Nature of the Thing, or from the Pertinency of the Preamble, why the Petitioners *must actually mean* the *Present* Fellows only. Nay, I see no Absurdity, nor Impertinence (supposing the Matter of *Fact* to have been true, with Regard to Love and Amity) tho' the Word *Fellows* shou'd be understood to comprehend *all* the Fellows, ever since the *Foundation*, to the Year 1700. Rather on the contrary, the farther we extend the Signification of the Term Backward, the Argument must be so much the stronger, and closer. For if we consider the *Fellows* as a Society, perpetuated down through so many Generations successively; the Form of the Argument will stand thus: The Fellows, that is, the perpetual Society of *Trinity*-College all along, have lived with Love and Respect to their Masters,

sters, and in Amity with one another. And therefore, the *Failure* of such a Love, Respect and Amity, whenever it happens, we think it reasonable to attribute to the *Master*; because it is not so likely that a *whole Society* shou'd be chang'd, all of a sudden, in its Temper and Disposition; as that a *New* Master, a *Single* Person, shou'd differ in his Carriage and Administration, in his Affection and Concern for the Society, from all those that have gone before him in that Station. But We, the present Petitioners, have experienc'd the *Failure* of such a Love, Respect and Amity as the Society have all along maintain'd between Themselves, and to their Former Masters; and we think it reasonable, accordingly, to impute it to our *now Master* Dr. *Bentley*, who became our Governor in the Year 1700. and we imagine we can make the *Reasonableness* of this Imputation farther appear, by such Instances as shall be herein after specified.

If Dr. *Bentley* therefore will give us Leave to use his own Expression, I think, Sir, we may fairly enough, from this Beginning of His, make a Conjecture of what's to follow. I am sorry, upon all Accounts, that I shou'd be forc'd to dwell so minutely upon such little frivolous Objections: For you know, Sir, the Mischief on't is, that there are many People of middling Judgment, with whom these *Deceptions* will be thought *not so bad* as they are, before Explanation; and afterwards *much worse* than they are: And Both these upon Account of their coming from so Great a Man as Dr. *Bentley*.

I don't so readily apprehend Dr. *Bentley's* Meaning, when he says, that if *these* Fellows lived more respectfully under *Former Masters*, 'tis no Commendation however, Because they had *less Power to do Mischief*. For, when He assures the

the World, that upon his First coming among us, he found a general Encouragement for *Laziness* and *Ignorance*, and *an Impunity for all manner of Luxury, Drinking*, and *Gaming*, and *Breach of Statutes*; it is not every Man can form a Notion of a *Greater Power* of doing Mischief than *this*, which he says is so much *less* than what they have *now*. But if he means they had less Power, *as Governors*, to oppose the Projects and Designs of *Former Masters*; I can't tell whether some Readers wou'd not move for an Emendation of this Passage, and insist, that what Dr. *Bentley* is pleas'd to express by a *Power to do Mischief*, wou'd be more truly represented by calling it an *Opportunity of Doing God*.

Dr. *Bentley*, Sir, was very well aware that his finding *No Tradition* of the Love and Respect of the Fellows toward their *former* Masters, wou'd avail but little; unless he cou'd find a *positive* Tradition to the *Contrary*. This it was that occasion'd the short History of Dr. *North*, his last Predecessor but one. The Account he gives of that Matter, in his *Twelfth* Page, Dr. *Bentley* himself knows, at least by this time, to be a very Injurious and Mistaken one. Dr. *North* and his *Senior Fellows* were perfectly *Unanimous* in restoring Discipline, in the Case referr'd to by Dr. *Bentley*; for, by joint and general Consent, they pass'd Censure upon Two Scholars for Immoralities and Crimes. There was no *Affront* offer'd, nor any *Provocation* given the *Master* in that Affair; The *Seniors* were withdrawn; and Dr. *North* had afterwards sent for the Two Offending Scholars, to give them good Advice, and tell them, that if they reform'd their Lives and Behaviour, the Censure shou'd not be remember'd to their Prejudice: And, as he was pursuing his Exhortation, he fell suddenly

ly into a fit of an *Apoplexy*; out of which the Two Scholars beſtirr'd themſelves, and got proper Aſſiſtance to recover him; and he actually did recover; and ſo well, that he liv'd *Five Years* after it. And this is the grand capital Inſtance that demonſtrates the want of Love and Reſpect in the Fellows towards their Maſter Dr. *North*! This is the *Paſſion* They threw him into: This is the *Paſſion* which threw him into an *Apoplexy*; and *not long after coſt him his Life!*

In my Opinion, Sir, there is no One Paſſage in Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter, wherein he diſcovers himſelf ſo much at a loſs for a Vindication of himſelf, as he does in this very *twelfth* Page we are now conſidering. We have already gone through the greateſt part of it, and you ſee what it has produc'd. But we are now entering upon the laſt Paragraph; where indeed, to ſay the Truth, what between Compliment, Demonſtration, and Detraction, Dr. *Bentley* ſeems reduc'd to the utmoſt Perplexity.

For here, when He comes to ſpeak of the Love and Reſpect of the Fellows, with regard to his Own Particular, He ſtrains the Point of Civility to a very high Degree, and plays at once the Courtier and the Philoſopher, in the moſt handſome and prudent manner; by declaring ingenuouſly to my Lord of *Ely*, that he *lays no Streſs* upon being *reſpected* and *belov'd* by his Fellows.

And yet, becauſe it is the peculiar Talent of Dr. *Bentley*, to purchaſe, and ſecure to himſelf, the Love and Eſteem of Mankind, by *ſuch* ways as, any *other* Man wou'd think, muſt alienate and deſtroy 'em *for ever*; He does not abſolutely *diſclaim* all Intereſt in Our Affections. He *Believes* he has *as much Reſpect* and *Love in Trinity College as Any of his Predeceſſors had*: And he takes

takes this very Case of our Complaints to be a Proof on't; for as much as *the Majority of the College cou'd by no Sollicitations be engag'd to join in the Petition against him.* Dr. *Bentley* having pass'd his Word, that it will give him no Uneasiness to be undeceiv'd in this Matter, I can, with the more Decency, leave it to the Determination of any sensible Reader, Whether what Dr. *Bentley* thinks fit to insist upon, as a Proof in his *Favour*, be not manifestly a direct Proof to the *Contrary*: Since it is undeniable in *Fact*, that He has had *several Predecessors*, against whom *no* such *Complaint* as this was ever so much as Attempted, or thought of by any Soul in the College; much less was any Sollicitation ever us'd, on *either* side, to *engage* People in any thing like it, or to *restrain* 'em from it.

'Tis true, Dr. *Bentley* seems to suspect the Force of the Argument, even while he is pressing it. For which Reason, in the next immediate Words, He puts his Cause upon another Bottom. *If in this Age*, says He, *of Parties and Dissentions, some few dislike me on that Account, 'tis impossible to help it.* I don't at all question, Sir, but Dr. *Bentley*'s Own Heart will tell him, that not One Individual Man has subscrib'd the *Petition* upon any Motive of *this* Nature; notwithstanding what he has here been so Charitable as to insinuate to the World. In the mean time, Sir, do You look upon this to be fair Quarter, that Nobody must be allow'd, in any measure, to disapprove Dr. *Bentley*'s Proceedings, without immediately incurring the Brand of being an Offender either against Morality, or Politicks, or Both? It is not very difficult to imagine what Dr. *Bentley* proposes to himself by this foul, this rugged, this inhumane way of treating and representing his Subscribers, and every

body elſe that utters a Syllable in diſpraiſe of His Management.

My Lord of *Ely*, 'tis hop'd, will ſee through the Deſign; which indeed, is too groſs to be capable of Palliation. Dr. *Bentley* betrays ſuch a Fund of Self-Admiration and Sufficiency, as will not give him leave to ſpare Any Man whatever, that entertains the leaſt diſtruſt or doubt of the conſummate Reaſonableneſs of any of his Words or Actions.

------ Improbus hic amor eſt, dignuſq; notari.
In Vitium libertas excidit, & vim
Dignam lege regi. ------

Wou'd Dr. *Bentley* perſuade the World to eſpouſe his Intereſt, at this Juncture, by Scattering abroad ſuch vile, ſuch groundleſs and virulent Reflections? Wou'd he inveigle them, by ſuch Odious Colours, to ſink, to depreſs, to fix a mark of Infamy upon the College and the Univerſity, as Places that debauch and corrupt Men's Principles? Alas, theſe Expectations are diſhonourable and vain! Nor are We to be ſcar'd and brow-beaten by ſuch empty Apprehenſions as theſe! No; my Lord of *Ely* is a Perſon of too much Juſtice and Penetration, to be miſled at ſuch a rate; and too eminent a Patron of the Liberal Arts and all uſeful Learning, ever to concur in ſuch a deſperate Propoſal of ruining the Univerſity, where he laid the Foundation of thoſe excellent Qualifications that make him ſo great an Ornament and Support to his Country, as a Churchman and Stateſman too.

Nay, Sir, we reckon our ſelves perfectly ſecure of all reaſonable *Encouragements* from the Government: And we think we may firmly build our Security, in this Particular, upon the re-

repeated Assurances Her Majesty has been graciously pleas'd to give of her Royal Favour to the University. And we cherish an humble Confidence, that the Design of our Illustrious Founders and Benefactors will never be totally subverted, while there are so many of the Nobility descended from them; while there are so many Lords, and so many Gentlemen of Family and Fortune, who either are, or have been, glorious *Members* of this our Body; while there are those who consider, that the Abuses in a Society may be reform'd, without abolishing the very Use and Being of the Society: And that it is neither *Necessary*, nor *Just*, that all Abuses shou'd be charg'd upon the *Governed* Part: In a Word, while there are those who reflect upon the many publick and signal Advantages that have accru'd to the whole Nation (especially since the late happy Revolution) from the Address and Abilities of Men of Letters, Men Educated in the Universities.

These we hope, Sir, are Considerations that will be sufficient to baffle the unaccountable Disgust of such as depreciate and deride the very Name of the University; either because they never at all experienc'd this way of Education, or else because they cou'd never bring themselves to submit to the Methods of its Discipline, or to make a proper Use of them; and so are resolv'd to Apologize for their own shameful want of Proficiency, by finding fault with those Helps and Directions they wou'd never give themselves the Trouble to understand and comply with.

If Dr. *Bentley*'s Aim, Sir, in this Place, be what he has given too much Occasion for his Readers to suspect it is; who can deny it to be a very laudable one? Who can deny *Him* to be a very *Galen* in Divinity?

Omnia vel medium fiant Mare! - - - - -
- - - - *tanquam Hæc ſint noſtri Medicina furoris!*

There is no Perſonal Ground, that I know of, for Dr. *Bentley* to imagine any One ſhou'd diſlike him upon what he calls a PARTY Account: at leaſt in the Senſe he would be glad to be taken in. For if the Inquiry be made, What has Dr. *Bentley* done to ſignalize or approve his Zeal in any Publick Cauſe? Are his Merits of this kind ſo flaming? Are his Affections to the Preſent Miniſtry ſo conſpicuous? Or his Good Offices ſo Conſiderable and Momentous? - - - - - We have an Example of that.

- - - - - *plurima deſiderantur* - - - - -
- -
- -
- -

And this, Sir, is all I ſhall ſay concerning the *Parties and Diſſentions of this Age*, as Objected by Dr. *Bentley*. How far we have Reaſon to *diſlike* him, upon this Account, you ſee very well. "But, He ſays, excepting theſe few Party Ma-"lignants, he does not want the good Word "and Love of any, but of ſuch Wretches, "whoſe Commendations wou'd be more Scan-"dalous than their Railings." I own there are ſuch Wretches, whoſe Commedations are more Scandalous than their Railings. And I won't be poſitive but there may be ſome ſuch among the Subſcribers: But I ſhan't undertake to Point out the very Perſons he means in Particular; only thus much I dare be bold to affirm, Sir, That Dr. *Bentley* does not mean *Me*. Becauſe I have frequently commended him when he

he has not ſeem'd to look upon it as a Diſparagement: And I ſhall, at any time hereafter, if he gives me Occaſion, take the ſame Liberty to Commend him again, when it lies in my way, without fear of incurring his Diſpleaſure for the *Scandal*: Unleſs he thinks fit to declare, by a publick *Manifeſto*, that my *Good Word* will be a Prejudice to him in his Fortunes and Reputation; then, indeed, I ſhall think my ſelf oblig'd, in Civility, to be more ſparing of my Commendations.

I don't underſtand, Sir, however, What Notion Dr. *Bentley* proceeds upon, when he ſpeaks as if it cou'd not be expected that Thoſe who *Diſlike* him, upon any particular Account, ſhou'd ever give him a *good Word*, or afford him any ſhare of their Love: I hope *all* ſorts of Diſſentions are not ſo diametrically Oppoſite to the Spirit of *Chriſtianity* as this comes to. In ſeveral times reading over Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter, I have not been able to meet with ſo much as the *Shadow* of a Good Word, or any Degree of Love and Good Will beſtow'd upon any of the *Subſcribers* except *One*; and yet I ſhou'd be cautious how I argu'd from thence, that Dr. *Bentley* has no Remains of Charity for any of the Reſt.

Dr. *Bentley* ſhuts up this wonderful *Twelfth* Page of his Letter with the following Words: "For no one can have the Favour of thoſe, if "he is not like 'em in their Vices." This Paſſage ſhou'd ſeem to have been added, by way of *Reaſon*, to confirm what he had ſaid juſt before, That the Commendations of ſome Wretches are more Scandalous than their Railings. But I wonder Dr. *Bentley* ſhou'd expreſs himſelf ſo untowardly; for if it ſhou'd be found

after all (as it is not impossible) that He has the Love and Good Word of some such Wretches, how shou'd we do to bring him off from the Application of his own Maxim? The only Way wou'd be, to perswade him to retract it: And the only Way to do That, wou'd be, to Shew him that his *own* Character is liable to the *Rigor* of it. In my Apprehension, Sir, it might have been sufficient for the Confirmation of what went before, to say, That no one can have the favour of those, without danger of being *Thought* like 'em in their Vices. This makes it *Scandalous* enough a Conscience: But Dr. *Bentley* makes it even *Criminal*, and a positive *Guilt* for any one to have their *Commendation*.

So that after all, Sir, what Dr. *Bentley* lays down here for an Infallible Rule, is by no means True: Since Experience assures us, that Wicked People will sometimes shew Favour to Good Men; which it is very easy to Account for. But were Dr. *Bentley*'s Rule never so True, yet it is nothing to the Purpose. I suppose what Dr. *Bentley* wou'd prove, is, that He himself is Faultless, and free from all Vice or Blemish. But allowing him to be as Faultless as he pleases, yet this is no *Argument* at all to demonstrate that he is so. For Vicious Persons do often bestow as little of their Favour upon *One Another*, as they do upon those who are really *Virtuous*. I may be like a Vicious Man, in the General Character of *being Vicious*, tho' we may differ intirely from One Another, in the Particular *Kinds* of Vices we are addicted to. And this Particular Difference may be enough to deprive us Each of the Other's Favour, notwithstanding our *General* Agreement in being *Vicious*. And it does not seem to follow, that I

am therefore *not* Vicious, because I have not the *Favour* of some Vicious People. And the same may be said as to Dr. *Bentley*, or any one else.

Thus we are at last got through this famous *Twelfth* Page of Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter: Which has indeed convinc'd me, of what has been made the Ground of much Boasting on his Behalf, That the whole was written with a great deal of Haste and Precipitation. This, Sir, at best, is hardly a tolerable *Excuse*; but sure, as the Case stands, there can be no manner of Pretence for *Glorying* in it.

We have another very egregious Paragraph, immediately following this, in the beginning of the *Thirteenth* Page. Here, Sir, Dr. *Bentley*, finding himself charg'd in the *Petition*, with having disturb'd the *Peace* of the College, sets himself, unaccountably, to plead an Equivocal Guilt of such Things as the Petitioners never meant to Accuse him of, nor ever bore him the least Spleen in the World for. In order to the more successful Prosecution of this Amusing Scheme, he begins by declaring, "He was "sent hither to be Master of the College on "that very Account, to awaken it out of that "drowsy Peace:" And then he adds this short, but florid, and courtly Panegyrick upon the Administration of his immediate Predecessor, the *Honourable and Reverend Dr.* Montagu: "If "an Agreement in Laziness, and the Neglect "of all useful Studies; if an Access to Col-"lege Preferments by mere Seniority, without "any regard to Merit; if the squandering the "publick Revenue in Luxury, and their own "in Drinking and Gaming; if an Impunity "for breach of Statutes, without any Check or

" Controul, be call'd the *Peace of the College*: then " I fear I may be truly Indicted for a Diſturber " of that Peace."

Dr. *Bentley*, Sir, in my Judgment is extremely in the wrong, and does not ſufficiently diſcern his True *Genius* and Talent, if ever he forſakes that, which the Criticks call, the *Scurrilous* and *Malevolent* way of Writing: Since by this One Specimen it appears next to an Impoſſibility that he ſhou'd ever ſucceed ſo Well, or ſhew himſelf to ſo much Advantage in any other Dreſs. And to do him Juſtice, it muſt be own'd, He has ſeldom been obſerv'd to put ſo great a Violence upon this Nature, as to attempt any thing of a very different Air.

I am very willing, Sir, to examine what Dr. *Bentley* ſays in this Place; but to anſwer it in its Kind, 'tis ſo very Extraordinary, that I'm afraid 'tis paſt my Skill. Not for want of Materials, but for want of that towering Spirit of Malice, of Inſolence, and of Slander, with which it is Penn'd. There are ſeveral Gentlemen of Figure and Learning, as well *in* the Univerſity, as *out* of it, who know what the College *was* before Dr. *Bentley*'s Time, and who know what it is *now*. And theſe, I don't doubt, will give a Juſt Teſtimony, in defence of the *Honourable Dr.* Montagu, that the ſeveral Articles of Miſmanagement enumerated here by Dr. *Bentley*, are a moſt notorious, vile, and abominable Calumny. There was no ſuch infamous Peace in *Trinity* College as He pretends; and yet, for all that, Dr. *Bentley* may be truly Indicted for a Diſturber of the *Peace of Trinity College*.

There

There have been about Forty Perſons choſen Fellows by Dr. *Bentley*; ſeveral of which have gone out into the World, and ſhewn themſelves Abroad. Have any of theſe, now, attracted the Eyes, and Applauſe of Mankind ſo powerfully? Have any of them come off, in their Publick Exerciſes and Employments, with ſuch vaſt Honour to themſelves and the College? Have any of 'em been rais'd, by their abundant Merit, to ſuch High Stations and Preferments? Have any of 'em been ſo ſhining and ſo ſerviceable in their Generations, that they are not to be match'd by any of the Fellows in Dr. *Montagu*'s Time? If Dr. *Bentley*'s bare Word will paſs for a Demonſtration, well and good: But, otherwiſe, there ſeems to be no Manner of Neceſſity for yielding this Point.

What does he mean then, by "an Agreement "in Lazineſs, and the Neglect of all uſeful Stu-"dies? Unleſs it be to ſet People a Conſidering, whether ſuch a Lazineſs, for any thing that ever yet appear'd to the contrary, has not been rather encourag'd, than diſturb'd, by Dr. *Bentley*?

What does he mean, in the next Place, by "an "Acceſs to College Preferments by mere Se-"niority, without any Regard to Merit? There is a certain *Non-Subſcriber*, a very *Conſiderable Perſon*, a Perſon of a Prodigious *Merit*, that will hardly take it at his Hands; a Perſon of wonderful Literature, and that does not want a due Senſe of his own Worth; and that waits but for an Opportunity to publiſh to the World a *Petronian Eſſay* againſt Dr. *Bentley*, which he has had by him a long time, ready cut and dry'd. Therefore, let Dr. *Bentley* conſider, whether it may not be adviſeable to retract this Clauſe before it be too late; at leaſt, let him try to molify the Reſentment of

ſo

ſo ſhrewd a Writer, by *Crying Quarter*, in the Words of *Horace*,

---- O Major tandem parcas inſane minori.

There is the more Reaſon to give Dr. *Bentley* this Caution, becauſe, that great injur'd Perſon declar'd he had all the Motives in the World to ſubſcribe the *Petition*, but that he thought it below his *Merit* to join *his* Cauſe with that of other People; and that he was able to *fight his own Battel* ſingly by himſelf. *Nimirum, maluit eſſe ſimul & Orator Maximus, & ſuæ Gentis Fortiſſimus.*

But ſtill, Sir, the ſame Queſtion returns upon us again; What does Dr. *Bentley* mean by "an "Acceſs to College Preferments by mere Senio-"rity, without any Regard to Merit? I dare ſay, if the Matter cou'd be fairly try'd and examin'd, I'm ſure, by all Accounts I cou'd ever yet hear, the Point of *Merit* was as diligently, and as throughly enquir'd into in the time of Dr. *Montagu*, as ever it has been ſince. In all Elections, both of Fellows and Scholars, the Examinations were as ſtrict and ſolemn, the Preparations as full and as ſubſtantial, and the Choice and Nominations as impartial, as fair and ſtatutable, as ever they were ſince. The Candidates, in thoſe Days, thought it neither *ſafe* nor *reputable* to deſcend to ſuch poor ſhuffling Doings, as have been introduc'd, and boaſted of, ſince Dr. *Bentley*'s Coming. To build ones Confidence upon Scouting over *Indexes*, upon Smattering a few *Terms* of Mathematicks, Chymiſtry, or Mechanicks; and upon having gotten by Rote a Liſt of *Title Pages*; and then away to the Maſter's Lodge, *hardiment*, and there depoſe, in ſolemn Manner, that one had gone through a vaſt Number of Books, and conquer'd almoſt all Parts of Learning; ſecure of being

ing

ing believ'd in the most empty and incredible Brags. -- All this was a kind of *Merit*, perfectly unheard of in the time of the *Peaceful Dr. Montagu*; till at length a more Warlike Prince arose, to shake off the drowsy Torpor; and then Bouncing, and Noise, and Pertness, and Flash, and Vanity, and Ratling, bore away the Prize.

No, Sir, in the Time of the *Honourable Dr. Montagu*, there was such a *Profound Peace*, that the Muses flourish'd. In those Days there was a Modest, but yet a Generous and Serious Spirit of Emulation to understand throughly, to be well vers'd in, and to imitate proportionably the Writings of the best *Greek* and *Roman* Authors; a great deal of Pains and Care was bestow'd in Exercises, that they might appear correct, exact, and strong to the Judicious Governors, who always took particular Notice of such Performances; and it was known all along by Mens Compositions, the surest Test, what Books they had study'd, digested, and delighted in. And when a good Character for such things came, at the Time of Election, to be confirm'd and ratify'd by a deeper Scrutiny into the Proficiency of the Candidates, then, after that, the *College Preferments* were bestow'd upon such Men, *by mere Seniority*, without any other *Regard to Merit*, than the Statutes require.

All this, Sir, Dr. *Bentley* takes to have been quite wrong; and therefore, in disposing of College Preferments, has, for the most part, gone into the very Reverse of this Method; as, in some Measure, we have seen already, in his Manner of discovering *Merit*. And as for giving any Countenance to *Seniority*, this has been his Aversion of all Aversions. -- *Cætit Nihil aerius.* -- In every Election, almost, he seems to have made it his particular Study and Delight to surprize the

the whole College, by ſome very odd, whimſical Step of this Kind; by hoiſting up, and ſounding loud the Praiſes of ſome obſcure, thoughtleſs, and unthought-of Mortal, or other. By clapping his Myſterious *ανάξιος's* upon the Backs of ſuch Wights, and ſuch Tools, as never were, nor ever will be able to write Three Lines of tolerable Senſe, in any Language, even their own Mother Tongue not excepted; like dreſſing up a Pigmy, in the Armour and Accoutrements of a Giant; as if he had really a Mind to make 'em Ten Times more ridiculous, than Nature ever deſign'd they ſhou'd be.

This, Dr. *Bentley* thought wou'd be an infallible Way to demonſtrate his great *Impartiality*. And accordingly this *Extreme* has been puſh'd and proſecuted, as Occaſion ſerv'd, with the utmoſt Vigor and Intrepidity. And it appears by his whole Managemnnt, that he looks upon all about him, whereever he is, to be no better than *Children*, or *Idiots*. For what Man of Senſe or Candor wou'd venture, in a Society of *Men*, to turn things upſide down at this Rate? As if, when he ſtoops thus, and fetches up, as it were from under-Ground, ſome ſorry Loon, ſome deſpicable Ignoramus, to ſet him aloft for a common Gazing Stock; as if *this* wou'd paſs for an Illuſtrious Evidence of a True Regard to *Merit*, preferably to *mere Seniority*: As if every body, that is not ſtark blind, did not eaſily diſcern the Meaning of ſuch a prepoſterous Affectation; as if it cou'd poſſibly be done with any other View, than *ad faciendum Populum*, to curry Favour with the *Mobb*, to inſinuate himſelf into the good Graces of the very *Bottom*, and upon *all* Accounts the very *Inferior Souls* of the College, to encreaſe his Retinue

Retinue of *Vassals*, and to secure to himself so many *Creatures* for ever after.

As to his next Particular, of "squandring the "Publick Revenue in Luxury, and their own in "Drinking and Gaming;" Again it must be enquir'd, what wou'd Dr. *Bentley* be at by all this Stuff? If laying out the College-Money in things not *necessary*, be call'd Squandring the Publick Revenue, no Master ever squander'd the Publick Revenue with such an unbounded Extravagance as *he* has done.

But, in the same sleering Mood, he says Dr. *Montagu*'s Fellows *squander'd their own Revenue in Drinking and Gaming*. Unless he has got some *secret History* by him, unless he will prove this General Assertion by some unknown *particular* Instance, how will this Charge ever be made good? What are the Symptoms of this mighty *Debauchery* on *one* Side, and of this wonderful *Reformation* on the *other*? I firmly believe, and I have good Reason for it, that there has been as much of these Doings in the Great *Bentley*'s Reign, as there was under the Great and Good Dr. *Montagu*'s Government. But still, Sir, wherein does this mighty Difference appear? Are the Studies of the Fellows better furnish'd now? Are their Persons more neat, or more elegantly Equipp'd? Are there less Marks of Indigence among 'em? Is the Name and Character of a *Fellow of Trinity-College* less Ignominious, less Infamous, as He has order'd the Matter at this present Writing, than it was in the *Honourable* Dr. *Montagu*'s Days? Here again, instead of Demonstrative Argument, and Evidence of Proof, he gives us nothing but downright Boldness, and Brazening Affirmation.

The *last* Article in this rude, Foul-mouth'd Charge of his upon the Honourable Dr. *Montagu*,

is

is of an Impunity for Breach of Statutes, without "any Check or Controul." Here, Sir, I think I can discover some little Glimmering what this *Knight of the Flail* is driving at. The Statutes *enact* that so many of the Fellows, whenever they absent themselves from Prayers in the Chappel, shall pay Three Half-Pence apiece to the *Deans* of the College. This Penalty had been remitted, and dispens'd with all Dr. *Montagu*'s time; and for some Years by Dr. *Bentley* too. But as Days come and go, and Time and Straw make Medlars ripe, it happen'd that after many Days coming and going, our Sage Controuler, pondering and revolving within himself, the horrible Consequences that might ensue from so flagrant a Violation of the Statutes, came at last to this Glorious Resolution. Posterity shall never have it in their Power to upbraid the thrice Illustrious and Magnanimous Dr. *Bentley*, that he wanted Courage to stem the swelling Tide of such daring Immoralities and Crimes: No, so long as I sit here the Sovereign Lord, and Ruler of this splendid Castle; so long as I see my self surrounded with Marble Chimney-Pieces, Brass Locks, and Sash-Windows; so long, Discipline shall be the Word, and the Statutes in full force.

So spake our awful Monarch Dr. *Bentley*; and strait his Words obtain'd their wish'd Effect. The Mulct Three Half-Pence for the Deans, took place; They humbly thank'd him for his Royal Bounty; Obey'd with Chearfulness his Dread Command; and swept into their Purse the welcome Pelf.

I'm afraid, Sir, instead of all this, you expected to hear how prodigiously the Chappel was throng'd and frequented upon this Regulation, in comparison of what it us'd to be in former

mer Times. But why shou'd you expect, Sir, more than ever was propos'd or thought of? For, pray observe a little, the thing that gave Offence, was not that Men should miss the Prayers; no, no; But that so much Money should be embezzl'd, sunk and misapply'd. No Fellow ever was, or ever will be, the more constant at Chappel, in Consideration of his *Three Half-Pence.*

Oderunt precare boni, Virtutis amore.

A Good Man does his Duty from no other Principle, than the sake of doing it. And to those who are Profligate and Irreligious, the Loss of Three Half-Pence is no such formidable Barrier to keep 'em from breaking through the Rules of Morality, and a Virtuous Example.

Whatever you may think of it, Sir, I can assure you this is the Sum and Substance of what Dr. *Bentley* means by an Impunity for Breach of Statutes, without Check or Controul. He can't possibly allege any thing else comparable to such an Impunity as has been allow'd and indulgid by himself; and that purely to carry on his own Selfish Designs: Which is *such* an Argument for Indulgence, as the Honourable Dr. *Montagu* wou'd have scorn'd the very Thoughts of.

However, Sir, it may be worth our while to take a little farther notice of this famous Piece of Reformation; which, upon Trial, will be found to have proceeded from the same Principle, that gave him the Hint of making *Merit* and *Seniority*, things, for the most part, Inconsistent. The *Statutes* enact, that the Young Scholars shall be present at Grace in the Hall after Meals, or else be punish'd so much by the *Deans*. Dr. *Bentley*, that the *Honour of the College, and the Will of the Founder might inviolably be maintain'd* in all

Points,

Points, at the ſame time that he revives Diſcipline upon the *Fellows* in *one* Caſe, takes it off from all the *Lower* Part of the College in *another*: And the young Lads are all declared to be perfectly at Liberty to be abſent from Grace, without incurring the Penalty preſcrib'd by the Statutes: And becauſe ſome of 'em, perhaps, might be impatient to run home to their Studies, others to try a fair Fall upon the Graſs, and others to make a Match at Foot-Ball or Cricket; he alleges the Unreaſonableneſs of the Founders, in requiring them to wait for ſaying Grace; eſpecially conſidering that, as it happens ſometimes, they diſpatch their Meals with greater Expedition than the Fellows do.

Can any Man now compare theſe Two Acts together, his inſiſting upon the Puniſhment of the *Fellows*, and his Diſpenſing utterly with this of the *Scholars*? Can any Man compare theſe Two together, and aſſign any other Cauſe, for ſuch Fantaſtical, Affected Sallies of Diſcipline, and No Diſcipline, than that of a poor, ſneaking, diſhonourable Endeavour to make the *Fellows* look little; to ſcatter his Favours among the Crowd, to ingratiate himſelf with the *Populace*; to win the Hearts, and fiſh for the Compliments of the *many*; to comfort himſelf up with the Love and Good Word of Children; and, as far as *their* Suffrages will avail, to walk off in due time, with the *Applauſe* of having been a *Great and a Good Maſter*?

Is it not a moſt ſhameful, inſufferable, provoking Piece of Arrogance, that ſuch a Man as *this* ſhould dare to throw out his dirty Defamations upon a Perſon ſo much better than himſelf, as the Honourable Dr. *Montagu*, his immediate Predeceſſor? This is He that wou'd fain be found

found Guilty of Reforming ſuch Corruptions, as never prevail'd in *Trinity-College*. Let him enjoy the Glory, and the Merit he is ſo fond of; and let him thank us for eaſing him of his fears, and for acquitting him, in this particular, from having been a Diſturber of the Peace of *Trinity-College*.

Let me only deſire you, Sir, after this review of the ſcandalous Account he gives of Dr. *Montagu*'s Adminiſtration, to reflect upon the Manner in which our *Bravo* introduces it. "But it ſeems in the fatal *Year* 1700. *when* "*Dr.* Bentley *firſt came to be their Maſter, the* "*Peace of the ſaid College was ſoon diſturb'd.* I'm "ſtrongly tempted, My Lord, to plead guil-"ty to this part of the Indictment; for when "I had the Honour to be nominated to the "Maſterſhip of that College, I was ſent thither "on that very account, to awaken it out of "that drowzy *Peace. Ubi deſidia & Torpor eſt, "pacem vocant.*"

From hence, Sir, it appears that the Lodge was an errant *Jayl*; that the Windows, the Stair-Caſe, and all the Apartments, were of a *decay'd antiquated Model*; that Stone, and Timber, and Mortar and Trowels, and Saws and Chizels, and Axes and Hammers, *came in too ſparingly*; that the College *Baggs* were lazy; that the Money did not fly about faſt enough; and that the Current Coin was taken napping.—— ἀργυς & ὕπνον ἔχει.

But he diſdains a Metaphor in this place, and applies it directly to the Fellows and Members of the College; by which he puts me in

mind of a Story in the *Greek Epigrams*. † A certain Mad-man was order'd into the same Room where another Person lay dozing in a profound Lethargy. The happy conjuncture prov'd an effectual Remedy to Both Parties. For the Mad-man, starting up all of a sudden, play'd such Gambols upon his sleepy Neighbour, by way of Kick and Cuff, that he reform'd and *awaken'd* every Limb, every Joint, and every Muscle about him; and wearied himself into the bargain with laying on, till he was quite spent. The Medicine was apply'd so well, that it operated with a Mutual Influence upon the distracted *Quack* and his sluggish *Patient* too. In short, the *Lethargic* was taught to keep his *Eyes open*, and the *Mad-man* to fall a *snoring*; each was brought to be content with a due Portion of Vigilance and of Rest, and the Cure was completed on both sides.

To moralize a little, Sir, upon this Learned Tale; I shall illustrate the *Mythology* of it in the following manner. It seems in the time of Dr. *Montague*, the Fellows and all the Members of this College had run mightily into the way of taking *Opiats*; insomuch that the whole Constitution of the Society was in imminent Danger of being viciated and ruin'd for ever. The God *Morpheus* had set up his Pavilion here, and a Universal *Torpor* had seiz'd and overspread every Mother's Son of us. But then in the (Fatal) *fortunate Year* 1700. another *Epidaurian* Sage, another *Æscula-*

† Κοινὴ πὰξ κλισίη κηδαίρεικ· ἀλλὰ φρενοβλὴξ
Κάμματι, ἀλλήλων τῶσον ἀπισκίδμεναι.
Ἐξέθορε κλίνης γὰρ ὁ τολμήεις ἀπὸ λύσσης,
Καὶ τὸν ἀναλκέστερον πάντοθεν ἐντύλε μέλη.
Πλευγαὶ δ' ἀμφοτέροις ἐγένοντ' ἄκος. ἆρε ὁ μὲν ἀυτῶν
Ἔγρεσθαι. τὸν δ' ὕπνῳ σεῦλε κέρδος.

Æsculapius, interpos'd, and brought us back to Life and Senſation, and ſnatch'd us from the Paws of that Viſionary Deity. This wonderful *Deliverer* appear'd, not in the Shape which the True *Æsculapius* aſſum'd when he made his Viſit to the People of *Rome*; not in the Viſible Form, tho' with all the Subtilty and Venom of a Serpent: No; but he took upon himſelf the more modern, the more horrible and affrighting exteriour of a *Knight-Adventurer*, of a *Don Bellianis*, or a *Don Galaor*, together with the Stile and Title of *Bentivollo*. A generous Phrenſy inſpir'd his Head, and *Alecto* had infus'd into his Breaſt a larger meaſure of Fury than is commonly indulg'd to Mortals. Thus gifted and accouter'd, he made his Entrance within the peaceful Walls of *Trinity-College*; and finding, by the general ſtilneſs of the place, that all was out of Order, he ſounded an Alarm; and, with a Voice as loud as *Stentor*'s, or that of *Mars* in *Homer*, he thrice repeated his tremendous Charge:

Arma velit, poſcatque ſimul, rapiatque juventus.

The hideous Sound pierc'd through the ſleeping Band; and ſtarting from their downy Trance aſtoniſh'd, they half unfold their heavy Hands and Eye-lids, then ſink into their deep Repoſe again, and *Torpor* reaſſumes his ſoft Dominion. No ſooner did the Champion perceive the force of his *Words* unſucceſsful, but he girt his Warlike Harneſs about him, and put himſelf into a poſture for *Action*. With that, flouriſhing in his right hand, with equal Grace and Valour, a handſom, well-compact, true ſmart-exciting Cat-o'-Nine-tails, He fell moſt couragiouſly upon the thoughtleſs Drones, and thwack'd their Hides,

and yerk'd their lazy Doublets, and urg'd his Noble Toil, with ſuch inimitable *Vigour*, *Reſolution* and *Art*, that Poſterity will hardly credit the faithful Hiſtorian when he relates it. The Action will appear too great for Proſe; A *Homer* muſt ariſe to do it Juſtice. Full twice four Years he wag'd th'Offenſive War, and Fortune ſtood propitious to his Arms; He forc'd their Lines; took now and then a Priſoner; carry'd off a conſiderable part of their Baggage; put One or Two to the Sword *in Terrorem*; and brought all the reſt of 'em under Contribution. By this time ſeveral of the Beaten Tribe began a little to ſhew ſome kind of feeling of *his* Proweſs, and to bethink themſelves, and look about 'em for their *own*; but all, as yet, was only in a *Defenſive* way. The *Hero* ſmil'd as ſoon as he diſcover'd in them this hopeful dawning towards *Fortitude*; It gave him ground to think his Labour was not ill beſtow'd, and to preſage withal, that his next Endeavours wou'd, in a ſhort time, *raiſe 'em to ſo high a pitch*, that they might even dare to contend upon the level with *himſelf*. The Satisfaction of having already accompliſh'd ſo great Things, and the glorious Proſpect of accompliſhing ſtill ſo much greater, flow'd in upon him with a Tide of Tranſport; his gruff ſtern Look was ſoften'd into Simper; the Pleaſure of his Soul grew manifeſt; Gladneſs and Joy invaded every Feature, danc'd in his Eyes, and play'd around his Muzzle. Yet did our Knight not ſo abandon himſelf to his Tranſporting Contemplations, as to prejudice his Deſign of farther Action. Conqueſt he knew was but the way to Conqueſt, and Vict'ry not purſu'd is won in vain. He therefore took a prudent Reſolution, *of ſtriking while the Iron yet was hot*; and ſo to form and mould his

hardy

hardy Troops, to eagerneſs of Fight and brave Defiance. After a ſequel of ſuch Reflections and Motives as theſe, he begun to glow with Ardour and Impatience to ſet his laſt hand to the important Work he had, thus far, ſo proſp'rouſly carry'd on: And having determin'd forthwith to repeat the ſame Experiment with proper Variations, the whole Form of his Manly Viſage was chang'd immediately into a tenfold Roughneſs and Severity; a tenfold Rage, a tenfold Might poſſeſs'd him in this time of Critical Exigence, and diſtorted his whole Body and Soul into the moſt Formidable Agitations; and Now, thought He, or Never ſure, will theſe *Poltrons* be fir'd and inſtructed to give Battel to an inſulting Foe. He ſtar'd, he rav'd, he foam'd, he raild, he--- and ruſhing on, broke Heads, and Ribs, and Shins, and ſlaſh'd, and hack'd, drew Streams of Blood, and made a thouſand deep and frightful Gaſhes, without Remorſe or Relaxation: 'Till Nature, wonderfully *qualify'd for meaſuring of Work*, and knowing, to a Scruple, what the Conſtitution of each Party requir'd and wou'd bear, cry'd out, *Baſta!* 'Tis enough. Immediately the boiſtrous Knight threw down his Weapons, exceedingly out of Breath, and with all the Marks of an Incredible Fatigue: and at that very inſtant the Objects of his Diſcipline felt ſuddenly an unuſual Warmth, and Impulſe come upon 'em, and all with general Voice declar'd for Arms, Revenge, and Liberty; and that the injur'd Party ſhou'd try to maintain the Point of Honour, againſt the griſly Challenger, in fair and open Combat.

The whole Moral may, in few words, be ſumm'd up thus: The Fellows and Members of *Trinity-College* for near Ten Years have under-

gone a most heavy Yoke of Servile Discipline, under a furious, insolent, unaccountable *Braggadocio*; and the World has, for their tame Sufferings, look'd upon 'em to be no better than a Pack of slumbering listless Cowards: But at last, by the wild extravagant Pranks of a freakish Master, the Genius of the College is rowz'd, and we think it high time to demonstrate to the Publick, that we have such things as Life and Spirit, and a generous Indignation and Resentment abiding in us; that we can exert 'em too, upon a Proper Occasion; and that we now seem to be in a fair way of recovering perfectly from our late Peaceable Indisposition. We thank the Mighty Operator, that has done so much to forward and perfect this wonderful Cure upon us: And we hope, in Gratitude, that he Himself will reap a suitable Benefit from his Labours; and that, in requital for the Painful, Toilsom Execution of so Desperate an Undertaking, the Frantick Creature will, in due Season, be compos'd into a fine Salutary Slumber, so as never more to disquiet Himself, and the World about him, with such Ridiculous, Whimsical, Romantick Sallies.

This is all, Sir, that can possibly be made of that strutting, swaggering, noisy piece of Ostentation of Dr. *Bentley*'s, about his being *sent hither on that very Account to awaken us out of our drowzy Peace*. He seems indeed, in this respect, to have perform'd his Errand, to have executed his Commission, and to have given a very ample Account of his Expedition: and, if This be what was given him in charge by those who nominated him to the Mastership, if this be the Service his Patrons requir'd of him, He has certainly earn'd his

Quietus; they may e'en recall him; He is of no farther Uſe; His Talents are ſufficiently known; 'tis unreaſonable to expect they ſhou'd carry him any farther, or to any thing elſe. His Vertue is all exhauſted.

——*vacuâ melior ſine regnet in aulâ.*

From the middle of the 12th page, for a vaſt way together, there is very little in Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter that deſerves any great Notice. He ſpends his time in amuſing the Reader with an Account of the Services he has done, and the Alterations he has made; and giving falſe Colours to his own Proceedings, and the Proceedings of other People; and pretending that the College was mightily *diſturb'd* whenever he undertook any thing for the Benefit and Advantage of it. I can't think my ſelf oblig'd to follow him through every little ſhuffling Paragraph of this kind: Only, in general, let it be ſaid once for all, That he never *did*, or *attempted* to do, any thing that was really and manifeſtly for the *Good* of the College, but the *College* were as well pleas'd with it as *He* can be for his Life.

I will however, as I go along, juſt point out here and there a paſſage, in which I think Dr. *Bentley* either impoſes on himſelf, or has a mind to impoſe upon his Readers. Firſt then, Sir, I believe it will be found to have been no great diſturbance of the Peace of *Trinity-College*, that he made Annual Elections into Scholarſhips. There cou'd be no mighty harm in this, if this had been all. But when a man undertakes to rectify one Error or Abuſe, he ſhou'd be cautious that he does not ſubſtitute another in the room

of it. To keep the College-Preferments vacant longer than is neceſſary, has plainly an appearance of Injuſtice: But then, to turn People out of their Preferments before they are requir'd by the Statutes to quit 'em, and this purely to put others into them before the Statutes deſign they ſhou'd enjoy them, can have no appearance at all of Reformation; 'tis only a pretended Tenderneſs, without any real Kindneſs to the Young People that are ſo preferr'd. For where's the vaſt diſparity, in point of Emolument, whether a young Scholar be admitted to Preferment a year ſooner, and then turn'd out of it again a Year or two before the Uſual Time of reſigning; or whether he ſtays a Year extraordinary before he comes to it, with permiſſion at the ſame time to enjoy it the full Term, without danger of being thruſt out arbitrarily, to make way for no-body knows whom?

As to the buſ'neſs of aboliſhing *exceſſive Treats*, upon thoſe Occaſions he ſpeaks of in his *fourteenth* Page, for my part I muſt declare I never heard any ſenſible body complain of it, as if that had been a *diſturbance of the Peace* of *Trinity-College*: much leſs did I ever hear it ſaid by any-body but Dr. *Bentley*, that my Lord of *Ely* was a Perſon by whoſe Aſſiſtance ſuch *laudable Cuſtoms* might probably be reſtor'd. This is a Complement which none but Dr. *Bentley* ever thought of making the *Viſitor*. See Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter, p. 14. l. 21. p. 24. l. 15. p. 26 l. 2. and p. 27. l. 12.

What he ſays, in the ſame page, about Biſhop *Hacket*'s Revenue having been fraudulently Miſapply'd, upon due Inquiry will be found to be nothing elſe but a foul and thorough piece of Miſrepreſentation.

What-

Whatever the Diſturbance was about the diſpoſal of College-Chambers, Dr. *Bentley* muſt intirely be acquitted from being the Author of it. Thoſe who proceeded Batchelors of Divinity in One thouſand ſeven hundred and two, did it abſolutely upon their *own* Motion; not in proſpect of *his* Aſſiſtance, but of pleading the Authority of the Statutes. And that men ſhou'd forbear taking their Degrees for above Twenty Years, to preſerve, as *he* ſuppoſes, the *Peace* of the College; this ſeems to be ſpoken altogether at random: becauſe, if every one proceeds regularly in taking Degrees, the Order of Priority will be the very ſame as if no Degrees at all were taken by any; and ſo the *Peace* of the College is as effectually preſerv'd by *every-body's* taking Degrees, as by *no-body's* taking 'em.

Dr. *Bentley* inſults mightily over the *Seniors* for their *Impudence*, as he calls it, in aſſerting that *Senior ſecundum gradum* did not mean Senior according to *Degree*, but according to *Admiſſion*. But when we turn to the *eleventh* Chapter of the Statutes, *De Officiariorum*, &c. *Electione*, and there meet with this Clauſe, *Seniorem hoc loco intelligimus qui ſit & gradu Magiſtri Artium, & Admiſſione Socius Senior*; This Degree of *Maſter of Arts*, join'd with Seniority of *Admiſſion*, will poſſibly be thought to include the *whole* meaning of thoſe words, *Senior ſecundum gradum*; eſpecially when in that very Clauſe the immediate following words are, *quam ſenioritatem nullo alio Scholaſtico gradu unquam immutandam decernimus*. And therefore I'm afraid all indifferent Perſons will think it would have become Dr. *Bentley*, for his own ſake, to have expreſs'd himſelf, upon this Occaſion, in Terms of a leſs opprobrious Emphaſis.

At another time, he says, page the *fifteenth*, the same men voted, That *unus vel plures, one or more*, cou'd not possibly mean *Two*. If the same men were call'd to answer for themselves, we shou'd perhaps be inform'd that Dr. *Bentley* had a mind *unus vel plures, one or more*, shou'd NECESSARILY mean *two*; and that They accordingly, in opposition to such an Interpretation, voted that *One or more* could not NECESSARILY mean *Two*.

Dr. *Bentley* thinks it a miserable Province to have to do with such men; Their Perverseness is so great, that he can't describe it without an *Hyperbole*. For which reason he says, If *his* Interest and *theirs* shou'd happen to clash, they wou'd hardly stick to vote that *NON* was an *Affirmative*. Dr. *Bentley* has not yet prov'd any such Absurdity upon *Them*: but I wish when we come to the 56th Page of his Letter, we don't find that he is actually guilty of it *Himself*.

The next thing Dr. *Bentley* speaks of is, as he calls it, *Repairing his own Apartment at the* College Charge. The particulars of this Affair I shall, as I said, leave to be insisted on by Others. Keeping the College Building in good Repair, no body ever did or can find fault with. But to go so vastly deep in Projects, beyond what can reasonably come under the Article of needful Repairs, is commonly and justly stil'd a piece of Extravagance, where a Man has not an exceeding great Treasure of his own to bear him out in such sumptuous Alterations. Dr. *Bentley* is sensible of this, and so he labours to vindicate it, by saying it was done for a very glorious End;

for the Use of all Masters hereafter, and the Honour and Ornament of the whole College; for the Use of their Lordships the Judges, and the Use of the Crown. The Founders built it indeed for the Use of all Masters hereafter; but I believe they never required any particular Master to lay out more upon it, than just what was necessary for his Own Use; nor does it seem reasonable, that the present Generation shou'd so clogg themselves with Charges of this kind, as to leave nothing for their Successors to do. *Former* Masters were content with what was useful, and so probably wou'd *Future* Masters be too; but in speaking of things useful, it is not usual to include Superfluities. A strong and spacious *Stair-Case*, tho' perhaps of an *Antiquated Model*, is certainly as useful as one of the most Modern and Elegant Form that can be devis'd. Good strong-built *Windows* of Stone, are as useful to see by, as the finest *Sashes*. And as good and useful Fires may be kept in plain *Chimnies* of common Stone and Plastering, as in those that are richly adorn'd with *Marble-Slabs and Chimney-Pieces*.

For the Use of the *Judges* and of the *Crown*, is nothing but an empty pretence: all these costly Things were done by Dr. *Bentley* merely to please his own Phancy. 'Tis a Childish Imagination to place ones respect to the *Judges* and the *Court* in such things as these. I'm afraid indeed that several of their Lordships the *Judges* have met with so little of any *other* sort of Respect from Dr. *Bentley*, that the main of his Civilities towards them will be found to consist in the Splendor of his Apartment. And he has often complain'd of it as an intolerable bur-

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den and uneasiness, that the Judges shou'd be accommodated in His Lodgings.

The *Prince* and the *Court*, whenever they honour the University with a Visit, expect a decent, hearty, solemn, and chearful Reception; and such a Reception, I dare say, they never did, nor ever will fail of meeting with. As for any thing farther, 'tis natural enough to believe that *Princes* and *Great Men* don't much delight to see themselves *mimick'd*, in the State and Magnificence of their own *Palaces*, by every little private *Master of a College*: And the more He swells, and strains his scanty Dimensions in such vain Endeavours, so much the more he exposes himself to their Derision and Scorn, and runs the hazard of forfeiting all the Merit and Applause of a modest and generous Entertainment.

I should be loth, however, to undertake that the World will not think it highly rude and indecent for Dr. *Bentley* to be his Own Trumpeter upon these Occasions; especially by such an invidious way of making odious Comparisons, and condemning every-body for Mean-spiritedness and want of Sense, that does not determine exactly as He does. And whether it will be allow'd to be consistent with the Rules of *good Breeding* to publish a *Reck'ning* for the *Dinner* Her Majesty did the University the Honour to accept of, I leave to be consider'd by any person of *Sense and Generosity*.

Dr. *Bentley* cites an Order, subscrib'd by himself and the Seniors, for Repairing and Finishing the Lodge, *with new Cieling, Wainscot, Flooring, and other convenient Improvements*: Where 'tis

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eaſie to obſerve a *Specimen of Dr.* Bentley's *Honeſty, and his Subſcribers Capacity and Attention*, who are, in effect, drawn in to ſign a Blank. Here is nothing ſpecified expreſly but Cieling, Wainſcot and Flooring: This would have been too great a ſtint upon him, for which reaſon he warily inſerted *other convenient Improvements*; reſolving at the ſame time to be Himſelf the ſole Judge what ſhould be accounted *convenient Improvements*. And from hence, he thought, he had a plain Right and Authority to demand and take whatever He pleas'd: for all wou'd come within the Order, and be plac'd under the comprehenſive Head of *convenient Improvements*.

After this, in the 18th page, he tells my Lord of *Ely* how They withſtood and refus'd his liberal Contribution towards this Repair, and concludes the Paragraph by declaring with what a ſuperiour Greatneſs of Soul he perſiſted and ſubſcrib'd, nay, and has actually paid it. The firſt part of the Paragraph diſcovers fully, that the College was extremely diſpos'd to be as kind and civil to him as poſſible: But the ſquinting Reflexion he makes 'em give to excuſe Him, is ſo rude and ſo ill-natur'd, that I hope they never ſaid it. He makes 'em ſay to him, *Your very Quota in the general Charge* (beſides any Free Gift) *is full enough for your ſhare; which*, perhaps, was one main *Reaſon why your Predeceſſors did not repair it before you*. A very charitable and obliging Inſinuation indeed! After this, as one abſurd thing commonly follows another, he makes 'em try to excuſe him thus: You eſpecially ought to be excus'd from giving, who have yet no Emolument from the Maſterſhip, and may die e'er the Repairs are finiſh'd. As if this might not have been

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the Case of any other Master as well as Dr. *Bentley*: and yet He, especially, must be excus'd upon that Account!

We find him saying, in the *nineteenth* Page, that it has cost him more upon the Masters Apartment, than would have built one *a Fundamentis*, tho' much less indeed, yet more commodious for Him and his Family. I can't imagine Sir, that any Apartment cou'd have been more *commodious* for *him* and his *Family*, than that which gave reception for three or four Noblemen, and by that means brought him in Six hundred Pounds a Year extraordinary, and enabled him to keep a Retinue of a Dozen or Fourteen Servants. I believe it wou'd have puz'd *Archimedes* and *Vitruvius* both, to have contriv'd an Apartment more commodious than this comes to, and that shou'd have cost less in Building from the Ground, or *a Fundamentis*, as he calls it, than Dr. *Bentley* himself has laid out upon his Own Lodgings.

In the *twentieth* Page, Sir, when he speaks of his being charg'd with making *continual Demands of Profits and Perquisites to Himself*, He puts on an Air of Integrity; enumerates several Demands he has made continually to no purpose, and makes such a strange stir and pother about Nothing, as if he wou'd fain harangue the gentle Reader into an astonishment of his marvellous Honesty, and make him cry out, Dear, what a *worthy*, *upright* Man this Dr. *Bentley* is! He says, *The sixteen Seniors of the College cheat the College in their Fines of Two hundred and seventy pounds a Year, by taking Ten Shillings a piece instead of One, for every Sealing. This known Perquisite*, he says, *brings the Master about Forty Pounds*

a Year. And when he, in Detestation of it, Good Man! demanded to keep to the Statute, the Answer has always been, That if He insists on that, they'll never consent to the sealing one Lease. Thus they force him to comply with, and partake in their unjust Encroachments over the rest of the House.

Alas! Alas! This is really one of the most Melancholly Stories that ever I heard in my Days! Poor Man! Wou'd a body think it? Well; 'tis a burning shame that People shou'd have the heart to use a *modest, humble* Man, at this unmerciful inhumane rate! But Oh! the Deceitfulness too, o' t'other side, of some Complaints! Dr. *Bentley* did not know, I warrant you, that there cou'd be no *Fines* without *Sealing Leases*, nor any *Dividends* without *Fines*? He did not know, that their Share in *Dividends* was of greater Value than their share in *Sealing Money*? and that they wou'd sooner part with *this* than *that*, if they were driven to part with either? at least they wou'd sooner yield up *This*, than part with *Both*; as they *must* part with *Both*, if *no Leases* at all were *seal'd*? All this therefore that Dr. *Bentley* brings, to evince his own prodigious Love of *Justice*, is nothing else but errant Child's Play; a little idle Artifice, for forms sake, to make a faint Opposition, that so he may, upon Occasion, slip his Neck out of the Collar; and if any Hardship or Incroachment shou'd be urg'd against him, He has his Answer ready.—Oh fie! What! Dr. *Bentley* be accus'd of such things, when it is notorious that he remonstrated against taking any more for *sealing Leases* than the Words of the *Statute* appoint him! But how did he remonstrate? Why meerly in Jest, as a Man does many a time when he wou'd be loth to be taken at his Word. *Sume Catelle negat: si non dei optat.*——Here, Sir, take the Money.——

Who

Who I? Yes I warrant ye! No indeed not I. But he'd think it very hard, and ſawcy, for all that, if you ſhou'd not give it him.

So that it is indeed, as he ſays, an eaſie matter to judge whether this Demand was made for his *own Profit*; for if it had, there can be no manner of Diſpute but he wou'd have prevail'd and carry'd it one way or other. For "how can the "*Maſter* of the College be forc'd? What Signs, "what Methods, what Inſtruments of Force to "extort his Conſent? What? was he lock'd up, "and kept from all Suſtenance, till he was forc'd "to yield? Was not his Voice his *Own*? Was "there not freedom of Debate and Diſſenting? "Was he ever puniſh'd or oppreſs'd upon the "Occaſion? Where theſe and the like Circum-"ſtances are abſent, to plead Force and Compul-"ſion, is the Plea of a Child," a *little Maſter*, not of the Great *Bentley*, Maſter and *Governour* of *Trinity-College*. See Dr. *Bentley's* Letter, pag. 22, 30, 31.

He ſpeaks, in the 21ſt page, of another Demand of his about ſome Augmentations the Principal College-Officers had made to their own Salaries. Here he deals ingenuouſly, and lays open the True Cauſe of his Grief: "There is nothing like it made to the Maſter." No wonder then if the Maſter finds fault. —— *Hinc illæ lachrymæ.* Let but the *Maſter* go Snacks, and the reſt of the College may *patiently truckle under both theſe Uſurpations for ever*, with all *His* heart. For tho' he pretends to *hope, now a Viſitor is call'd for, that both theſe Corruptions will be redreſſed by a higher Power*; yet He has done all he cou'd to drop the Viſitation intirely, and to compound Matters without redreſſing any of theſe *Corruptions* at all.

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In the 22d Page he cavils most insufferably about the Expression in the Petition of his *threatning to take away with the Forc'd Consent of the Governing part of the College.* He calls it "a parcel "of Words put together by Mr. *Miller* after his "peculiar manner." I cannot but look upon Dr. *Bentley* to be a wonderful unlucky Man for starting such an *Objection*: If the Words are put together after the peculiar manner of any-body, 'tis after the peculiar manner of Dr. *Bentley*. He thinks it strange to suppose that He should be so *Foolish* to make such a Threat — *To take away with the Forc'd Consent.* I am sorry he has forgotten his old Friend and Favourite *Peithananke*, Πειθανάγκη is the same in *Greek* as *Forc'd Consent* is in *English*. *Robert Constantine* expounds it, *Persuasio cum necessitate conjuncta*; a mixture of Persuasion and Necessity; Or, which comes nearer to the Letter of the *English* Phrase, ἡ μετὰ βίας πειθώ, *Persuasion with Force*, or *Forc'd Persuasion*, that is, *Forc'd Consent*: And so *Tully* uses it, in his Letters to *Atticus*; when speaking of *Cæsar*, he says, *Non tam voluntatem hujus timeo quam* πειθανάγκην. and then adds immediately a passage of *Plato's*, διὰ δὲ τυράννων δεήσεις διὰ ὅτι μεμιγμέναι ἀνάγκαις; *For the Requests of Men in Power*, of *Tyrants*, which is a Word commonly taken in a bad sense; the Requests of such Men, *you know*, says he, *do generally involve a Necessity of Compliance.* No Man living was ever so fond of any thing, as Dr. *Bentley* has always been of this πειθανάγκη. He takes it to be his *Good Genius*; and when it serves his turn, he'll harangue you an hour together, about the glorious Feats he has done by the Vertue and Assistance of the great πειθανάγκη. Had Mr. *Miller* been so fortunate as to use *this* Word, instead of *Forc'd Consent*, the very *Pedantry* of it wou'd have bor'n him out: Dr. *Bentley*

wou'd never have utter'd a Syllable in diſpraiſe of κατάγνωσις, tho' he is pleas'd to be at the expence of abundance of Wit to rally and expoſe the legitimate Off-ſpring of it, *Forc'd Conſent*.

But Dr. *Bentley* has not done with the Paſſage yet: For he adds, "How can the *Governing part* "of the College be *forc'd*?" The Reader, no doubt, perceives that this Queſtion can imply no more than a little Quibbling Fallacy, which Dr. *Bentley* preſents him with, by way of Diverſion. The Author's Words, indeed, may ſeem to ſuggeſt, that it is abſurd to ſuppoſe the *Governing part* ſhou'd be *forc'd*: For, ſo long as the *Seniors* are the *Governing part*, they can't be *forc'd* or over-rul'd, becauſe then they don't *govern*: and therefore, if they are *forc'd* and *over-rul'd*, they can't be call'd the *Governing part*. But, I preſume, Dr. *Bentley* knows that a *Governour*, in *common Language* at leaſt, if not in *common Senſe*, is denominated not ſo much from his *actual* and *perpetual Exerciſe* of Government, as from his *Office* and *Commiſſion*, by which he is authoriz'd and impower'd *to govern*. Where Government is intruſted in many Hands, 'tis morally impoſſible that *all* of 'em ſhou'd, at *all* times, *actually govern* in *all* points; and yet *thoſe* who are ſometimes *over-rul'd* by the *reſt*, may, *in common Senſe and Language*, be as properly call'd a *Governing part*, as the *reſt*, by whom they happen, for the time, to be over-rul'd. I ſee 'tis more than a *ſecret Diſpleaſure* to Dr. *Bentley*, that the *Seniors* ſhou'd be reckon'd a *Governing part* of the College: But I imagin it will admit of no Controverſie with him, that *He himſelf* is really a *Governour* of the College. Why does he ſay then, that the Seniors *Force him to comply with, and partake in their unjuſt Encroachments*, if it be ſo abſurd

absurd to suppose the *Governing* part shou'd be *Forc'd*? How plainly and how shamefully does He baffle himself by his own Arguments!

It being said in the *Petition*, That Dr. *Bentley threaten'd to take away several known Privileges and Perquisites*, He desires it may be observ'd, that they are not call'd *Due*, or *Just*, or *Lawful*, but only KNOWN *Perquisites*. — But People that are not given to be unseasonably *verbose*, will think that *Known* Privileges expresses enough in that place; for *Known Privileges* are suppos'd to imply *Due*, and *Just*, and *Lawful*, at least till the Contrary is prov'd; and all the Words in the World can do no more.

From the *twenty-second* Page to the *twenty-ninth*, he gives Instances of his having taken away *some Known Perquisites*, and therein of his having done great Services. All this Account is idle, frivolous, and tedious. The most remarkable and pleasant thing is, to see what a wonderful *Chagrin* it gives him to have it said, that the *Seniors* are a *Governing part*; for he repeats the Words *Governing part*, with a disdainful *Irony*, no less than *nine* times in the compass of *six* Pages. He says he is yearly a *Loser* by putting down the *Pandoxator's Dividend*: I don't know whether this will not bear a Dispute; but if it will not, he has manag'd Matters very cunningly, since it does not appear that any-body else is a *Gainer* by it, upon the whole. And as for his Noble and Couragious Contract with one *Baker* and one *Brewer*, without any Consent at all of the Governing Part: I am very much mistaken if the Statutes do not *forbid* the *Master* making any *Contract* upon the College Account, *without* the Advice and Consent of the *Seniors*.

It is very ſcandalous in Dr. *Bentley* to entertain all the World by publiſhing ſuch dirty and indecent Characters as he has drawn of Mr. *R*—— and Mr. *J*——, had they been never ſo true; eſpecially to cry out upon the *firſt*, for letting out his own Chamber at Rent, and skulking about without one, when he knows his Chamber was taken from him with an high hand; and to expoſe the other as a poor broken Madman, when he knows he has liv'd for above theſe four Years as regularly and inoffenſively as any-body. And yet, to ſhew that he is not *reſtrain'd by his Titles* from going ſtill greater *lengths in Scandal*, he affirms *there are ſeveral others among us much more vile and worthleſs than they.* And which is worſe than all the reſt, and makes his uncharitable Scandal as Comprehenſive as poſſible: He has often declar'd, That the *worſt* in *His* College, are *better* than the *Beſt* in any *Other*. How is it poſſible for People of Spirit and Generoſity to mind any thing that ſuch a Man ſays?

See Dr. B's Letter, P. 79.

The good Service he urges concerning the Regulation of the Expences in the Hall upon all Feſtivals, never yet occaſion'd any great diſturbance of the *Peace* of the College, that I can remember. But whether the *Deſign* of thoſe Feſtivals has not in a good meaſure been ſubverted by *Him*, under Colour of Reforming the Abuſes of 'em, let any Man pronounce, when he has conſider'd, that the very *Scum of the Town* might have been kept from coming to 'em without excluding from ſuch Entertainments the *Doctors* and *Heads* of the Univerſity; unleſs Dr. *Bently* has a mind that *They* alſo ſhould be comprehended under that nice, diſtinguiſhing, well-bred Character. This good Regulation, he ſays, has ſav'd the College *above*

Three

Three hundred Pounds a Year, for above these *four* Years. I should be glad to meet with the Man that has found himself a *Gainer* in proportion to the boasted Advantages of this *good Regulation*.

I am willing to grant, Sir, however, that in most of these Points, Dr. *Bentley* has, in the main, done the College Service, tho' it be really nothing to the main purpose of *Argument* between *Him* and the *Petitioners*. Nay, I should not scruple to pay him my formal Acknowlegements in this behalf; but that I fear there are those in the World, who wou'd traduce me as if in my Practice I favour'd the *Papists* in their Absurd Doctrine of *Supererogation*. Therefore, to excuse the omission of needless Panegyric, as *Shakespear*, in his *Coriolanus*, makes somebody say concerning the *Consul*, so say I concerning Dr. *Bentley*; *'Tis* true, *he has done some Services* to the College, *and I wou'd thank him for them, but that he pays* Himself, *by being* PROUD.

In the *twenty-ninth* Page Dr. *Bentley* transcribes these words from the Petition. "And even "Fellowships and Scholarships from several in "particular." He says, by the connexion of this Clause with the Precedent, here are *four* Propositions included in these few words. By the same trifling skill in *Analytics*, he might as well have gone on, and split 'em into *Twenty*. *So dubious, or so fertile, is the Stile* of any Man that falls into the hands of *such* an *Expositor*. To all that he says in that Page upon the Occasion, the Answer is easy: The Master's supposing or affirming that he is in the right in all he does, will never be sufficient to prove that he is so. As *before*, he reckons he did well to take away *Known Perquisites*, because it is not expressly said in

See Dr. B's Lett. p 29. l. 24.

in the *Petition*, that they were *Due*, and *Juſt*, and *Lawful*; ſo *here again we have the ſame exactneſs*; Fellowſhips and Scholarſhips are taken away by the Maſter *alone*, *pro mero arbitrio*: But this is no Crime in the *Maſter*. *No matter*; *tho' he was oblig'd by expreſs Statute, by the very words of the Maſter's Oath, by all Conſiderations of the Honour and Advantage of the Houſe, and the Examples of other Colleges*, to a quite different manner of Proceeding!

Let him produce the *thirty-eighth* Statute, and let him be try'd by his *Own* Expoſition of it, in his *forty-ſecond* and *forty-ſeventh* Pages; and then, ſuppoſing the ill Courſes and Enormities of his two Fellows in 1708 to be never ſo intolerable, the Statute will never be able to defend him in that Act. The *Statute* requires a *Perſonal* Citation of the Offenders before the *Maſter* and *Seniors*: without *this*, be the Offence what it will, it is not puniſhable by *Statute*. Nay, ſuppoſing the *Seniors* had agreed with him in their Expulſion, it would not have been a *Statutable* Act, for want of the *Circumſtances* enjoyn'd by *Statute*. For does not *he himſelf* ſay, in the *Forty-ſecond* Page, That *propter majora Crimina*, the Perſon is to be try'd *before the Maſter and Eight Seniors*, and upon *Conviction*, to be Expell'd by the *Conſent* of the *Maſter and major part of the Eight*? Does not he ſay, this was *prudently* order'd by the *Founders*, not only for fair Dealing toward the *Accus'd*, but for Security of the *Maſter* himſelf? Does not he ſeem to think it *unreaſonable*, that any *Maſter* ſhould deſire to be appointed *ſole* Judge in Caſes of ſo doubtful a Nature? Tho' he *himſelf* has acted that *unreaſonable* part! Does not he lament, in his *Forty-ſeventh* Page, that *Drunkenneſs*, and *Lewdneſs*, and ſuch like Crimes, cannot be *Statutably* puniſh'd

niſh'd by the Maſter *alone*, without the *Conſent* of their *Majority*?

If by any means, he cou'd have gotten the Two Criminals to have relinquiſh'd their Fellowſhips, he might have done *them* and the College a ſervice, without *over-ruling* the directions of the *Statutes*: but, as the Caſe was, he cou'd not fairly, by his own Principles, by his *Own Interpretation* of the *Statutes*, cut off the Mortify'd Limbs, tho' for the Preſervation of the *whole Body*. For the Queſtion wou'd not only be, whether their Offences were *juſtly* puniſhable with Expulſion; but whether this has been fairly and ſufficiently *Proved*, ſo as to give the *Maſter* and *Seniors* Authority to proceed to Sentence, according to the *Manner* and *Form* directed by the *Founders*?

Dr. *Bentley* dates the Order for their Expulſion thus.

April 5th 1708. Order'd by the Maſter and *Seniors*, That the two Fellowſhips late of Mr.— and Mr.—— be declar'd void. Which Order, ſays he, being enter'd, two other Fellows were elected in their Places by the Maſter and all the eight Seniors, *Nemine Contradicente*. *See Dr. B's Lett.* p. 30.

'Tis plain enough, by what has been already Obſerv'd, that the *Maſter* and *eight Seniors*, ſuppoſing they had all been of one Mind, had *No* Authority, as the Caſe ſtood, from the *thirty-eighth Statute*, to expell thoſe two Fellows in that *manner*. But there is ſomething farther to be obſerv'd concerning this Paſſage of Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter: He ſays, Two *other* Fellows were elected into their places, the *Order of Expulſion being firſt enter'd*. Whereas it is notorious in *Fact*, that thoſe two *other* Fellows were præ-elected in *Michaelmaſs* 1707. that is, *Six Months* before the *Date* of the Order. But he has ſometimes pre-

tended ſo great an Antipathy to *Præ-Elections*, as a baneful Prejudicial Cuſtom, that it was not *convenient* to *own* it for a Præ-Election; Nay, I believe all the World cou'd not get him, at this very Hour, to *own* it a Præ-Election, tho' the thing be as plain as the *Light*; and tho' the very Words of K. *James* the *Firſt*'s Letter, dated *Sept.* the 7th in the *twentieth* Year of his Reign, are expreſsly theſe, *A new and unwarrantabe Device of Pre-electing more Fellows than there are Places vacant at the time of that Election.* Again; *that* Order of Expulſion was enter'd by the Maſter himſelf *alone*; expreſly *againſt* the Conſent of a Majority of the *Seniors*, as ſoon as their Backs were turn'd: and whereas he ſays they *did* Conſent, and ſhou'd have done it freely according to their *Duty* and their Oaths: It is Anſwer'd, No; —— they *Diſſented* formally, according to their *Duty* and their *Oaths*; and the *Conſent* alleg'd in the *Order*, is none of *theirs*; it was not ſo much as *extorted*; it was abſolutely *Forg'd*, as they themſelve declare. ——

He talks, in his *thirty-firſt* Page, what a great favour he did *thoſe two Gentlemen*, by that juſt and ſeaſonable Act of *Diſcipline*, as he calls it. I can't tell how many Letters of Thanks he may have receiv'd from *One* of 'em: But I fancy Mr. *Brevall* was not the Perſon that multiply'd his Gratulations upon him for the ſignal Benefaction. For I remember, I ſaw a Letter from him, to a Friend of his, one of Dr. *Bentley*'s *Non-ſubſcribers*, and as fine a Flower as any among 'em; wherein he mention'd his being expell'd; and he uſes *this* expreſſion, *Tantum non jugulavit.* *Except* Dr. *Bentley* had actually *cut my Throat*, he cou'd not have us'd me in a *more barbarous manner.*

He

He ſays, in the ſame Page, he turn'd out Mr. *Miller*, not for any *Crime*, but mere *Incapacity*. Why he ſhou'd be ſo *Modeſt* as to ſay, it was for no *Crime*, I can't imagine; for Mr. *Miller*'s *oppoſing* his Projects, is certainly as much a *Crime*, as it is an *Incapacity*. And that this is *all* the *Incapacity* he means, is plain: for otherwiſe, his *Incapacity* had been the ſame, during Dr. *Bentley*'s whole *ten* Years, as it cou'd poſſibly be in his *Tenth*. And in Caſes of mere *Incapacity*, He ſays himſelf, Page the *forty-firſt*, That he has no Power of diſpenſing, upon any pretence, with the *Statutes*; to *Him*, as *Maſter*, the Executive part of the Statutes is Committed; He muſt, and ought to exert it; He is *bound* to do it, not as an Act of *Command* and Power, but *Miniſterially*, and in obedience to the Will of the *Founders*. Which Paſſage he ſeems to have inſerted to ſhew his great Addreſs in Maintaining what the *Logicians* call the Law of *Harmony*, by which all the parts of a Diſcourſe are made to agree one with another: For, in his *38th* Page, to obviate an Objection, that might be made againſt him for not Ejecting Mr. *Miller* ſooner, He ſays, the reaſon of his forbearance was, becauſe Mr. *Aſhenhurſt* was the firſt who cou'd ſucced him in his Place. This empty Plea he overthrows, and *Caſſates* in his very next Page, where he aſſures my Lord, *that there are always ſome in ſo large a College that deſign the Profeſſion of Phyſic*: and yet, as if *this* had not been *enough* to confute himſelf, he muſt needs add in his *forty-firſt* Page, that in Caſe of *Incapacity*, he is *bound*, *Miniſterially*, and *Abſolutely*, and without delay, or farther conſideration, to put the Statute in Execution.—— *Peſſimè ſcribit qui quod hic ponit, alibi per incogitantiam evertit.*

All indeed that he ſays about this Matter, from the *thirty-firſt* to the *fiftieth* Page, is infinite-

ly

ly Poor and Impertinent. He ſays (Page 33.) when the Order for Mr. *Miller*'s Expulſion was written, and ſign'd by *him* in the preſence of the *eight Seniors*, Mr. *Miller* afterwards perſuaded the ſaid Eight to oppoſe him in the juſt Excution of the Statutes: When he knows, that the *ſaid Eight*, as his Phraſe is, oppos'd him at the very time he was writing it. But he ſays Mr. *Miller*'s Name ſtands again upon the Tables in defiance of Authority. Yes; if an Arbitrary, Tyrannical and Unſtatutable Act, be call'd *Authority*, there it ſtands, and in all probability will ſtand, in defiance of any ſuch Inſolent, Equivocal, and Uſurp'd Authority.

Then, in the next place, to ſhew what ſtrange unruly People the *Seniors* are, He adds, "I imagine, when upon my return, I ſhall order "it to be cut out again, (if your Lordſhip do "not interpoſe before) they will maintain their "Act by Club Law, *&c.*" Where it is to be noted, His Lordſhip *did* interpoſe, and forbid *him* medling with it again; and yet upon his return, the firſt Thing he did was to cut it out again; Where yet again it *ſtands*: But I imagine Dr. *Bentley* will maintain his Act by *Club Law* againſt the *Biſhop*, and rather than fail, againſt the *Queen* and *Council* too.

His whole Argument drawn from the words *Profeſſor* and *Doctor* to eſtabliſh the Neceſſity of Mr. *Miller*'s proceeding Doctor in Phyſic, is as precarious and perplex'd as 'tis poſſible for any thing to be. To pretend any ſuch Obligation from *Our Statutes*, is the higheſt and moſt groundleſs preſumption. By the *forty-firſt* Chapter a Man is declar'd capable of being *Regius Profeſſor* of Divinity, tho' he be not *Doctor* of Divinity. In the *nineteenth* Chapter, which preſcribes the time for taking Academical Degrees, and

and which begins with these words, *Est quidem illud verissime dictum honorem alere artes*, there is not the least Syllable about taking Degrees in *Law* or *Physic*: there is no *Term* fixt for the *Physic*, or *Law* Fellow's taking a Degree in *Physic* or *Law*, nor any manner of *encouragement* given, as there is *expressly* for taking all *other* Degrees. In the *twenty-third* Chapter, which determins every Man's Allowance for *Livery*, as we call it, that is for buying *Gowns* and *Habits* suitable to his *Degrees*; it is said, that a *Batchelor* of Divinity, the Year he takes that Degree, shall receive for his *Livery* the same Sum with a *Master of Arts*, and *no more*: That Doctors of Divinity, the Year they take that Degree, shall receive for their *Livery* the same Sum with *Batchelors* of Divinity and *no more*. But there is no sort of *mention* made of *Degrees* in *Law* and *Physic*; which wou'd be very *unreasonable*, upon supposition that the *Statutes* require or expect *Degrees* shou'd be taken in those Faculties by the *Physic* and *Law* Professors.

He endeavours to shew, from the Practice of all the *Rest* of the Fellows, that the *Law* and *Physic* Professors are oblig'd to *quit*, in such a Time, if they don't proceed *Doctors* in those Faculties respectively. He begins his Argument out of *our College Statutes*, and carries it on out of *his own Head*, and the *University Statutes* together, thus; "And as all other Elected Fellows, if after Seven Years they are not found *Presbyteri*, in Priests Orders, recede from their Fellowships without *Opposition or Complaint*; *so a Person nominated to the Physic Fellowship, if he is not* Professor Medicinæ *after Seven Years (the very time prescrib'd by the University Statutes to proceed Doctor of Physic from a Master of Arts) ought as contentedly to quit the Society.*" This,

Sir,

Sir, inſtead of arguing from the *Statutes*, is making *new Ones*, 'tis adding, ſupplying and obtruding his Own *Whims* and *Paſſions* as *Codicil* of equal Weight and *Authority* to the Will of the *Founder*. For ſo it may be ſaid, that Seven Years Maſter of Arts is the Time preſcrib'd by the *Univerſity Statutes* for a Man to take his Degree of *Batchelor in Divinity*: But ſtill his *not taking it* at that time, is *not* the thing that *vacates* his Fellowſhip; the thing that vacates his Fellowſhip, is, an expreſs *Clauſe* in the *College Statutes*, which requires him to *quit* his Fellowſhip, if he is not in *Prieſts Orders* at that time. And therefore by parity of Reaſon, a *Phyſic* Fellowſhip does not become void merely by neglecting to take the *Academical* Degree, unleſs an expreſs *Clauſe* of the *College Statutes* can be found, declaring a Man's *Fellowſhip* to be *void* if he does *not proceed* in that Faculty within *ſuch a compaſs* of Years. And 'tis plain, there is *no* ſuch expreſs *Clauſe*, nor any thing *like* it, in the Statutes *we* are *Sworn* to. So that, as he ſays, Page the *Thirty-ſeventh*, there can be no *Indulgence* in *our* College, as there is in St. *John's*; not becauſe of thoſe Words *Collegio in perpetuum expellantur*, which have nothing at all to do, in that place, with the *Phyſic* and *Law* Fellowſhips; but becauſe Our Statutes injoyn *no Condition* at all, of that kind to be diſpens'd with, as Theirs *do* in St. *John's* College.

I wonder therefore what he means, in the *Fortieth* page, by ſaying, "In thoſe two Statutes on which alone Mr. *Miller* was Expell'd, "there is not one Syllable of the *Conſent* of a the *Seniors*." For there are certainly as many Syllables about the *Conſent* of the *Seniors*, as there are about Expelling the *Phyſic Fellow* for not being a *Doctor* in that Faculty. 'Tis odd

ſort

ſort of Arguing in Dr. *Bentley*, that becauſe a Man is nominated to the *Phyſick* Fellowſhip *Judicio Magiſtri, by the Choice of the Maſter alone*, therefore the *Maſter* may turn him out *pro Arbitrio*, if he deceive the Maſter's *Expectation*; that is, I ſuppoſe, if he refuſe to be the Maſter's *Slave*, or pretend to withſtand him when the Rights and Properties of the *Society* are invaded by him. 'Tis a miſerable Diſpenſation to have One's whole College Fortunes depend upon the *Maſter*'s Pleaſure and *Expectation*; unleſs it were certain that the *Maſter* cou'd have *no* Pleaſure or Expectation but what was *Honeſt* and *Reaſonable*.

I wou'd fain know, Sir, what Inſtance Dr. *Bentley* can give of what he ſays in his *forty-firſt* Page, That the *Seniors* have been always graſping at the *whole Power*? I think he can mean nothing elſe but their oppoſing *Him*, when *He* would *Uſurp* all; that is, he means their inſiſting upon their own *Statutable Share* of Power and Authority.

There is a *crabby piece of Engliſh*, in his *forty-third* Page, where it is hard to diſcern whether he is *commending* or *reviling Maſters of Colleges*: "If Expulſions are now ſo rare, tho' the Crimes "are ſo frequent; I dare ſay, if Maſters alone "were to give Verdict, they wou'd ſtill be rarer." What? would *Expulſions* be ſtill rarer, tho' the *Crimes* were never ſo frequent? So indeed the Grammatical Senſe evidently determins: But I am unwilling to ſuppoſe *all* Maſters ſhou'd be ſo corrupt; Let him explain himſelf in his *next* Edition, for 'tis very unfair to uſe ſuch *Doubles Entendres*.

He ſays, in the ſame *forty-third* Page, "The "Prudence of the *Founders* was admirable in for-"bidding by Oath an Appeal from the Sentence

"of

" of the *Master and Seniors?*" His Admiration does not carry him half far enough: Therefore I add, The *Prudence* of the *Founders* was ſtill *more* admirable, in *Not* forbidding any Appeal from the Sentence of the *Maſter alone*.

From hence to the *forty-ſeventh* Page is all weak, malicious, and impertinent, even below the trouble of our farther Notice: Nor are we like to fare much better in what follows. He aſſures my Lord of *Ely*, He has now anſwer'd all the Three Pretences of the *Seniors* in Defence of Mr. *Miller*. Sure no Reader can forbear ſmiling, to ſee what an *Irrefragable Anſwerer* it is, and how conſcious of its wonderful Abilities that way.

But he craves leave to tranſcribe Two Orders, ſerv'd upon him by the *Vice-Maſter* and Mr. *Miller's Clerk*. 'Tis Nuts to him that there happens to be a Miſtake in each of the Orders, that ſo He may diſplay his profound Reaſoning, and *Critic* upon it: Otherwiſe he might have been contented with having refuted the Three Pretences contain'd in the *Latter* of them, without tranſcribing *Both*.

Upon exhibiting the *Firſt* of theſe Orders to my Lord of *Ely's* View, He preſently undertakes his Lordſhip will " admire at ſuch a new and " unparallel'd thing, That a Maſter ſhou'd be " ſummon'd from his Own Apartment, to at- " tend at a Vice-Maſter's Chamber." 'Tis a clever Man for ſetting People in Admiration! Why, yes truly, I believe my Lord of *Ely*, and every-body elſe *does* admire, that a *Maſter* ſhou'd give *Occaſion* for ſuch a *new* and *unparallel'd* thing. 'Tis all his Own Glory, and none but ſuch a Admirable, New, and Unparallel'd *Maſter*, cou'd ever have brought about ſuch a *new* and *unparallel'd thing*. If he deſir'd another Op-

por-

portunity, or wiſh'd 'em to come to *Him*, 'twas *His* buſineſs to have acquainted them with that Deſire, and that Wiſh. Without this, he had no reaſon to expect that his Confinement at home ſhou'd paſs for any thing but an Effect of his ſullen Haughtineſs; Nor did any-body know of his being ſo mightily indiſpos'd by a *great Cold*, as his Letter now pretends he was.

In the next place, and in the *forty-eighth* Page, having produc'd the *Second* Order, He cavils and carps at the whole Structure, Stile and *Syntax* of it, with the moſt affected, miſerable, ſenſeleſs *Pedantry* in Nature. He thinks, becauſe he has Dr. *Kuſter's* Word for it, that he is *Vir ſupra Captum ſæculi ſui doctus*, therefore he ſhan't be taken *literally* when he ſays his *Underſtanding* is a *poor one*. But if he pretends to be in earneſt, when he ſays he can't find the Senſe and Conſtruction of that Order, it is certainly more for want of Common Senſe in *Himſelf* than in the *Order*: And it is no good Mark of *Immenſe Erudition*, or an Elevated Underſtanding to be pos'd and gravell'd at that which any *School-boy* wou'd be aſham'd to ſtick at.

To ſhew how much he is ſuperior to Mr. *Miller* in *Correctneſs* and *Propriety* of Language, as well as to every-body elſe in *Ridicule* and *Raillerie*, he makes this ſmart Reflection upon the Whole. "The Author avoided Pointing it like a Bill in "*Chancery*, to ſhew he was Phyſician." Is not this now, Sir, a ſweet piece of Engliſh? ſmooth, fertile, dubious, and critical beyond compare? Is not here Elegance enough to overwhelm a Reader of ordinary Abilities? Does not this eſtabliſh Dr. *Bentley* for a Man *ſupra Captum ſæculi ſui*? Are not here Ambiguities enough to bewilder any Man of a midling Genius? any Man leſs vers'd in Riddles than *Oedipus*? any Man but the

Accu-

Accurate Compiler? No wonder, Sir, if *We*, poor Souls, are tortur'd and perplex'd with ſuch abundant Variety! Who dares determine or confine the mighty *Satyriſt* to any *Meaning* in this place? For my part, Sir, I declare, I am not *Chancery-man* good enough to know how this exquiſite little Period is to be expounded. What? Is Mr. *Miller* like a Bill in *Chancery*, for not pointing the Order? Or, is the Order itſelf like a Bill in *Chancery*, for not being pointed? Or, *ſhou'd* it have been pointed, to be like a Bill in *Chancery*? Or how is it? Or does its being like a Bill in *Chancery*, ſhew Mr. *Miller* to be a *Phyſician*? Or does it ſhew him to be *no Phyſician*? One indeed, I think, as much as t'other; and *All* as much as any. It is not for every One, (no ſtay, let me rather uſe the Critic's own beloved Word) it is not *CUJUSVIS* to write and reliſh ſuch egregious Flights and Turns, as this ſhort Period is adorn'd with.

His Worſhip wou'd oblige the World at no ſmall rate, by letting 'em into the true Spirit and Deſign of this *Lovely Obſcure* Paſſage. Till he gives us ſomething of an *Eccleircisſement*, I ſha'n't ſcruple to profeſs, that I take it to be nothing but a vain, wretched, blundering Attempt at *Wit* and *Banter*, executed after that heavy, ſtiff, wooden, and inſipid manner, which demonſtrates and completes a Man of that ample Character, ſtil'd by the French *Mauvais plaiſant*; in *Engliſh* the Men of that Claſs are call'd, *Sad merry Fellows*.

When a perſon is once perſuaded throughly of his own extraordinary Gifts and Talents, it ſhou'd prompt him naturally to employ and lay out all he can ſpare to oblige and aſſiſt his leſs-gifted Neighbour. Dr. *Bentley* is a Noble and Illuſtrious Inſtance of this Principle and Spirit

of

of Generosity: He is not selfishly content with writing Nonsense and unintelligible *Jargon* upon his own Account; he is not

Dissimulator opis propriæ, sibi commodus uni;

one that dissembles his own Abilities, lest Another Man shou'd expect to be the better for them. But, to do Mr. *Miller* a kindness, he borrows a *Stratagem* from *Bays* in the *Rehearsal*: He takes the Order to pieces; calls for a Scrap here, and a Scrap there; puts One Line into the place of Another, and makes all the several Clauses dance the *Hay* One with Another, meerly to represent in a more lively manner, such an *Eclipse* of the Sense, as his Own Occasions oblige him to introduce upon the Stage: And I wonder he did not point out to the Reader the several *Phænomena* as they pass'd by; Now the Earth's before the Moon—— Now the Moon's before the Sun——There's the *Eclipse* again.——— It must be own'd he has an excellent Phancy for these sort of Contrivances. So he entertains us with Ambiguities of his own Formation:—— *A College-Statute concerning a Yesterday's Ordering*, instead of *an Appeal made, according to the Form of the College-Statute, concerning a Yesterday's Ordering*, &c. Again, Where's the Sense, says he, of *our Now Master's Yesterday Ordering upon the Master's Interpretation*? Where indeed! Or where's the Sense of leaving out above Two Lines, and then wondring what's become of the Connexion? This 'tis to be a Man *supra Captum sæculi sui doctus!* This makes him think it *absurd* to have it declar'd, that *the Seniors do not agree with the Master to day*, after it had been declar'd that they *did not agree with him Yesterday*! As if it were Nonsence to suppose that People

who disagree One Day, cou'd possibly be reconcil'd the Next! *These are Accuracies not to be equall'd but by* that Philosopher who laid it down for Demonstration, *That the Moon cou'd not possibly turn upon her Own Axis, because she always obverts the same Face to our view*, when other People have imagin'd, that for *that very Reason* she must of *necessity* turn upon her Own Axis. But that Author seems then to have written in the Capacity of a *Critic*, and not of a *Naturalist*, or an *Astronomer*.

The Famous *Monsieur de la Bruyere* has an Observation extremely curious and natural concerning Disputants: *There's no Joy*, says he, *comparable to that of a Disputant, whose Adversary advances something which he knows he can easily and readily confute him in.* What Person was ever more obliging in this particular, than Dr. *Bentley* has constantly shewn himself to his *Antagonists*? I'm sure, *I* have reason to be thankful, for I have met with a plentiful share of these sort of Favours from that *Great* Man: And knowing that his Store is as inexhaustible as his Liberality is boundless and diffusive, I don't doubt but he will continue to dispence to me these Marks of his Kindness and Munificence to the very last Page of his Letter. 'Tis true, it requires much the same Turn of Head to taste and enjoy, as it does to furnish out such Objects of Pleasure and Satisfaction; and therefore I can't pretend to be affected with such exquisite Delight upon these Fortunate Occasions, as Dr. *Bentley* discovers himself to be. My Transports, alas! are languid, cold, and faint, in comparison of what Dr. *Bentley* expresses in the like joyful Circumstances.

He gives us a very signal *Specimen* of this noble kind of *Extasy*, when he comes to speak

of that Expreſſion which occurs in Both the abovemention'd Orders. *The Vice-Maſter and the reſt of the* Seven *Seniors.* It ſhou'd have been *eight* it ſeems, and not *ſeven.* This Error He calls the *Flower of all*: and that for a very Obvious reaſon, even becauſe it draws after it ſuch a manifeſt Abſurdity, as He can expoſe, baffle, ridicule, and vanquiſh with all the Eaſe in the World; that is to ſay, He can count his Fingers. And the Reader, I ſuppoſe, is admirably diverted to ſee him launch out, upon ſuch ſlender encouragement, into ſuch potent *Argument*; into ſuch bewitching *Rhetorick*; ſuch elegant *Expoſtulations*, ſuch ſhrewd, ſuch happy *Conjectures*, and ſuch witty, ſuch killing *Animadverſions.* All which is owing to the extreme *Gladneſs* that poſſeſſes him whenever he meets with a wicked, abſurd, idle, or *incorrect* Paſſage; and as *Horace* ſays,

——— *recepto*
Dulce mihi furere eſt amico!

'Tis clever to be a little Maddiſh, and out of ones Wits upon the arrival of an intimate Friend: ſo Dr. *Bentley* can no ſooner ſet ſight upon a *miſtaken*, *ſenſeleſs* or *improper* Word or Phraſe, but he is ready to leap out of Skin; and ſo overjoy'd, that he can't contain himſelf again.

You may ſee, Sir, by this what a keen Sports-man it is, and how mightily his Appetite ſtands towards Nonſenſe. That Seven *Seniors* inſtead of *Eight*, ſhou'd not be enough to ſatisfy his Luxurious Maw, but he muſt needs ſet his Own fruitful Phanſy at work to find out more *Game*; and to ſtart new Matter of Ridicule, for a fuller Opportunity of ſhewing

his Parts in the Prize of *Dullneſs* and *Obſcurity*.

I ſhan't purſue him through all his little *Meanders* of Impertinence, nor dwell, as He does, eternally upon every Shadow of an Overſight: *Aquila non captat Muſcas*: An Eagle does not uſe to be buſy'd in catching Flies. I won't make *him* the *Compliment* to ſay he *Contradicts* the Proverb; but ſure enough he bereaves himſelf of all Title to the Nobler part of the Application.

To diſcover the Original of that miſtake of the *Seven Seniors*, He ſays, Mr. *Miller* had his Eye upon the twenty'th Statute *about Domeſtique Quarrels.*——*Voilà qui eſt ſpirituellement remarqué, & c'eſt prendre le fin des choſes*: very ingeniouſly obſerv'd; This is really entring into the nicety of Things! He calls it an *acute* and *ſagacious Interpretation*. Verily, He muſt be an *acute* and *ſagacious* Man indeed, that does not want an *Interpreter* to explain to him what can poſſibly be meant here by the Word INTERPRETATION. It might as well have been Augmentation, Extirpation, Procraſtination, or any Word of a ſimilar Termination. But he ſays, he adjourns it to another Occaſion. I am glad to hear it; I wou'd have him proceed with Deliberation; and I wiſh with all my Heart it may anſwer expectation, and prove, what he ſays it is, an acute and ſagacious Interpretation; without Equivocation, Mental Evaſion, Falſification, or Miſrepreſentation.

In the mean time, Sir, one cannot but take notice how he *ſniffs*, with a Majeſtic Diſdain, at the very thoughts of that word LIS. *My exerting the Statute for his Expulſion* (ſays he) *was a* LIS, a Quarrel, *forſooth my Lord*, between Mr. *Miller* and the *Maſter!* Alas a day! Cou'd

we think of no way to appeaſe his riſing Indignation? ——Why I dare ſay the Founders did not mean to affront him. Nay, I don't think they wou'd ſleep quiet in their Graves if they knew, that he was offended at it! No; to be ſure they did not foreſee that ſo great a Man as Dr. *Bentley* wou'd ariſe to honour the Maſterſhip; otherwiſe they wou'd have us'd a more Reſpectful Term than that ſame little ſaucy Monoſyllable, *Lis!* ——But I leave him to the Enjoyment of his Own Fooleries.

And ſo I come to his *fiftieth* and *fifty-firſt* Pages, wherein he gives the Lie to Himſelf, to Matter of Fact, to the expreſs words and entire ſcope of the Statute, and to the Judgment and common Senſe of Mankind, in the moſt furious, vile, inſufferable manner. And all to eſtabliſh his own Arbitrary and unlimited Authority over every Scholar, every Fellow, and every individual Member of the Society. What does He quote Bp. *Pearſon*'s Order for, unleſs He can prove that that Caſe is exactly parallel with his own, and that the Biſhop acted directly *againſt the Votes of all the Seniors*? Nay, if the *Biſhop did* act ſo, What's that to him? *Is Cuſtom and Precedent to prevail in breach of the Statutes which He is ſworn and bound to obſerve?* Does not he, in ſome of his Fits, lament that there are ſeveral Crimes not puniſhable by the *Maſter* alone, without Conſent of a *Majority* of the *Seniors*? (Page 47.) Tho' in another mood, He admires and extols the *Prudence* of the *Founders* in ordaining that it *ſhou'd* be ſo? (Page 42.) And yet he has the Face to talk here, in his *fifty-firſt* Page, of a *Power* in the *Maſter* to expell any Member, *without* Concurrence of any of the *Seniors*!

In the name of Vertue, Learning and good Diſcipline, let him take the two firſt Lines of his Own precious *Motto* into ſerious Conſideration, and apply 'em, in Both Reſpects to Himſelf—

——*Indomitam audeat*
Refrænare Licentiam:

Let him give a check to the Licentiouſneſs of his Own wild unruly Temper: If he does not, I'm ſure 'tis high time ſomebody elſe ſhou'd *ſhew* him *where* ſuch a Reformation ought to *begin*. But what cares He for Shame, Reaſon, Decency, or Common Honeſty; ſo He may but exalt Himſelf into an Abſolute *Lawleſs* Sovereign, and Promote, and Oppreſs juſt as his preſent Intereſt, Rage or Malice, ſhall direct? What elſe cou'd engage him all of a ſudden in ſuch *violent*, *abſurd* Meaſures againſt Mr. *Miller*; *Firſt*, To pretend to Expel him againſt the plain Words of the *Statute*, and poſitive Remonſtrance of all the *Seniors*? And *then* tell the *Seniors*, , Look ye, if you'll abandon Mr. *Miller*, and agree with Me, I'll tear *Him* to pieces; if not, I'll tear *You* to pieces. A very pretty Gentleman to be entruſted with the Government of a College! A Man that ſeems indeed form'd to bring about great things, to turn a College into a *Bear-garden*, and if he had *Power* to his *Good-will*, to ſet the *World* in a *Combuſtion*.

But he ſays, Biſhop *Pearſon* was not accus'd by the *Seniors* for Tranſgreſſing the Bounds of his Power. It does not appear, that the Biſhop *deſerv'd* to be ſo accus'd. There is no *Tradition* that *He* ever acted with ſuch glaring Symptoms of a *Tyrannical Phrenzy*; however, he is paſt being accus'd *now*; nor is it any thing to the

the purpoſe, whether he was accus'd or not. But neither was *He himſelf* accus'd, he ſays, in 1701. 'Tis very true: Neither was *I* nor any of the *Subſcribers* accus'd by Dr. *Bentley* in 1701. *That Seniority*, ſays he, *was not this, the beſt are gone off, and worſe come into their Places.* Doubtleſs! Where's the Wonder of that? How can it be Otherwiſe, by the Rule of His *Motto*?

——— *Quatenus (heu nefas!)*
Virtutem incolumem odimus,
Sublatam ex oculis, quærimus, invidi.

Alas! the wretched Iniquity of Human Nature! thoſe noble Patterns of Vertue and Goodneſs, which only move our Envy and Ill-will while they flouriſh and are preſent before our Eyes, how dearly do we miſs 'em when they are taken from us! 'Tis ſome comfort however to conſider, that We who are Now ſuch *Scandalous, Profligate* and *Immoral Wretches*, the *very Dregs and Recrement of all*, ſhall yet be hereafter *Clari poſt genitos*, Great and Famous Worthies in the Judgment of Poſterity.

This plainly ſhews, that Remembrance and Expectation makes up all the Happineſs of this Mortal Life! Dr. *Bentley* can with Pleaſure reflect upon thoſe that are gone off; they were a Choice, Select and Glorious Race: And ſo likewiſe he can entertain himſelf with a delicious Proſpect of what future Years may produce: He promiſes himſelf a Golden Age, as ſoon as this is Over; but as for the preſent Generation, he has no manner of Satisfaction from it; all is Dregs and Recrement; all is Filth and Off-ſcouring; all is Scandal and Abomination! The Reaſon is evident: The *Seniors* that are dead and gone, he ſays, *never accus'd him*: And

the Time he hopes, will come, when he ſhall have another Set of *Seniors*, that will ſit ſtill, and let him do whatever is right in his own Eyes: But the preſent *Seniors*, and the next immediate Pretenders, he finds are like to ſtick upon his Skirts.

Heu ſtirpem inviſam! ——

Away with ſuch a hated Brood. Oh, that the *Viſitor* wou'd but rid me of 'em; But why does He fly to the *Viſitor* to get rid of em? when it is not above Ten Lines before, ſince he aſſerted an Abſolute Power in the *Maſter alone* to Expell any Member without concurrence of *Seniors* or any one elſe! I ſuppoſe, well knowing he had aſſerted a Falſhood, he has here the Ingenuity to retract it. A Solution more *acute* and *ſagacious*, than any thing he is able to offer in Excuſe of his manifold Inconſiſtencies.

In the ſame *Fifty-firſt* Page, he mentions his taking away the Scholarſhip of one Mr. *Thompſon*. Whereas therefore, he ſays upon the Occaſion, That this was done *within two Months* after his being made *Maſter*; This is to certify all thoſe who deſire to be truly inform'd about that Affair, *That* it was at leaſt *Forty Months*, even between *Three and Four Years* after his being firſt Maſter. The Gentleman's *Tutor* was ſo far from *doing the thing*, that he was abſent from the College at the time, and much ſurpriz'd when he heard of its being done; and the Perſon himſelf fully intended to continue in his *Scholarſhip*, and try his Fortune the following Election for a *Fellowſhip*. But the *Seniors* concurr'd both in diſplacing him and electing another. Be it ſo: But if the *Maſter* gives Them a falſe Account, and miſrepreſents Matters to

make

make way for his Own Schemes, and assures 'em as upon certain Notice and Intelligence, that the Case is so; and if they, depending upon his Integrity, believe his Report, and concur with him in an unjust Act; Where, in reason, is the Blame to be laid? Upon the Seducer, no doubt; as the Author, Abettor, and Ring-leader of all the succeeding Mischief. However, 'tis plainly impossible it should be true, that he did not hear of this Error till *Eight* Years after the *Fact*; for it is not yet *Seven* Years since 'twas done; and according to his *own* reckoning, he has heard of it any time these *Two* Years; and in all probability, long before: Nay, I don't at all question, but he knew it to be wrong, the very moment he was doing it.

And now, Sir, turning over Leaf, we are come to the place where he is to account for *inflicting several Unstatutable Punishments upon several of the Fellows*, for *no Other reason but because he heard they talk'd against his Proceedings*. How does he go about this, but by wresting and perverting the plain Words and Design of the Statutes, to justify the Disorders of his own Passion, Pride, and Peevishness! He says, indeed, the Punishment he inflicted, was *only a Disgrace*. *Only* a Disgrace! Whatever he thinks of it, 'Tis highly Barbarous and Tyrannical to lay a Disgrace upon any Man, without proving fully, and convincing that Man, that he has deserv'd it. But he says, *'Tis a high Crime by Statute to talk against what the Master does, when he is executing his Duty, and serving the Society*. May be so: But what's that to to *Him*, that scarce ever yet put it into the *Power* of any Man to come within the *Statute* for any *such* Crime? For that *He was* all the while executing his *Duty* and *serving* the *Society*, is a Matter very much question'd

tion'd; 'tis a Matter that wants a great deal of Confirmation; and that muſt not be granted, till it ſhall be thoroughly made out.

However, it had need be a very High and Heinous Crime indeed, that muſt call for ſuch ſevere, ſuch ſolemn and dreadful Interrogations as *He* made uſe of upon the Occaſion. And one of the *Witneſſes* He was ſo *Provident* to have by him at that time, *will further ſwear*, that he trembled with Horror and Apprehenſion, and expected to hear of no leſs Crime than *Blaſphemy* or *Murder*, when he ſaw a Man of great Worth and Probity, good Senſe and Learning, attack'd by Dr. *Bentley* in this ſtrange, uncharitable, reviling manner: —*Do you believe any ſuch thing as a Day of Judgment? Or that you ſhall be call'd to an account for your Words and Actions in another World?* And when all came to all, what ſhould the great Tranſgreſſion be, but High Treaſon againſt the Sacred Majeſty of Dr. *Bentley*? For, ſays he to Mr. *B——ll*, you have been conſtantly Cenſuring and Objecting againſt my Propoſals and Practices for the good of the College; and if you don't make me Reparation by doing all you can to bring People over, and reconcile 'em to my preſent Project, you ſhall e'en march off and *cool your Heels* ſomewhere elſe, for here you ſhan't ſtay.

He tells my Lord of *Ely*, 'tis utterly falſe that he did it *for no other reaſon, but becauſe he heard they talk'd againſt his Proceedings.* But if he means it with regard to the Perſon I have now been ſpeaking of, then I poſitively ſay, 'tis wickedly *Falſe* in Him, to pretend any *other* reaſon. As for what he ſays, that to talk againſt His doings, is *very unbecoming a Body of Clergy Men*: —— *He* of all Men living ſhou'd have a care of making ſuch untoward Reflections;

one: His own Doings will abundantly vindicate Us from the Injustice of the Imputation; and if He *himself* wou'd but Meditate upon the point of *Decency*, as he ought to do, he would find sufficient Matter for his own Personal *Mortification*.

'Tis true, the Punishment or Disgrace was submitted to; but it was because there was no help for it. *Mahometism* is a most strange subtile thing: 'Tis not every one can withstand the Charms and Arts of a right *Spanish Inquisition*. And when Persecution is begun, the Sufferers may well be thankful if they are not Tortur'd to the last Extremity. If the Rage of the *Inquisitor* spares them in *any Degree*, 'tis so *unexpected*, that they think they can never enough proclame and extol his *Clemency*. *Oppression* from *such* a Hand, if it has any bounds at all, must be look'd upon as a high *Favour*. And who had not rather beg *Pardon*, though for *No* Fault, if *That* will save his Carkass, than run the hazard of being crush'd to pieces, by relying imprudently upon the *exasperating* Plea of his own *Innocence*?

Dr. *Bentley* proceeds next, in his *Fifty-fourth* Page, to that Part of the *Petition*, which speaks of his using *violent* and *unworthy Methods*, whereby he has prevail'd with some *few* of the College to espouse his *separate Interest*.

Here, again, Sir, he comes upon us with a most *acute and sagacious Interpretation*: *His* Interest must be the Rule and Standard of every body's *Meaning*: Accordingly he runs on in this manner; "They mean, no doubt, *by some few*, "those that refuse their Concurrence to this "Accusation, and yet the Subscribers, Mem"bers of the College, are but Twenty-seven, "and the Refusers are Thirty-seven. And then, to shew his *Breeding*, he breaks forth into this

this notable Exclamation, *What an Affront, what an Indignity is this to a Visitor, to lay such Stuff before him!*

Nothing in Nature can be more Imprudent and *Ridiculous*, than for *Him* to talk of *Affronts* and *Indignities*, to a *Visitor*, and of laying *Stuff* before him, while *He* is actually writing and publishing a *Letter*, which is fill'd with nothing *else*, from one end to the other. The *Subscribers*, he says, are but *Twenty-seven*: 'Tis but *counting* over the Names, and he is *confuted*. And all that subscrib'd were undoubtedly *Members* of the College, for any thing *He* has said, or *can* say, to the contrary. But then he takes it for granted, That *His* whole List of *Thirty-seven*, *refus'd* their Concurrence to the Accusation, nay, and have actually espous'd his *separate Interest*: Which is *actually* and *notoriously* False. He *knows* very well Himself, that *above half* his Catalogue were never so much as *apply'd* to for their Concurrence; and therefore can't in *common Sense and Language* be said to have *refus'd* it. And more than so, he *knows* that *above Two Thirds* of his *Thirty-seven Shiners* are as deeply and as warmly *against* him as any *Subscriber* of them all. And so far are they from being prevail'd upon, or won over to his *Party*, by his calling them *Flowers, and shining Examples of Learning and Sobriety*; that they are highly *scandalized* and incensed at his Book, and would be glad with all their Hearts, if he would *recede* from it in *whole and in Part*. They scorn, despise and nauseat, and are infinitely *asham'd* of those paultry, partial and *absurd* Commendations he has bestowed upon them: And, notwithstanding the sweet sugar'd Words he gives them, I am very well assur'd they would much sooner subscribe an *Accusation* against him, than any *Address* that should

ſhould be drawn up in *Terms quite contrary to our Complaint.* They have a Senſe and Reſentment of the foul, injurous Scandal he has heap'd upon the *Subſcribers.*

——*fuit intactis quoq; cura,*
Conditione ſuper communi. ——

They don't know how ſoon it may be *their Own* turn to be abus'd and vilified by him as much as *We* have been: They know they have eſcap'd it *Now* but very narrowly; and they know the *odd* fickleneſs of his Temper to be ſuch, that no body muſt expect to continue long in *his* Favour, upon *Honourable* Terms.

What, though his *violent and unworthy Methods* have been unſucceſsful, and have prevail'd upon *very few?* 'Tis no Thanks to *his* Probity, but to *theirs* who withſtood and were *Proof* againſt his various Wiles and Methods of *Deceit.* He has ſpar'd for no Motives, whether in the *huffing* or the *fawning* way: He has *promis'd, intreated, flattered*; and he has *menac'd, rail'd* and *ſtorm'd.* He has told the *ſame Perſon,* one Day, that if he would comply, a *Senior Fellowſhip* was at his Service; but the next Day, he has given him to underſtand, that if he did not ſpeedily come to his Terms, he muſt expect no *Quarter.* One Day we ſhould have him proclaming ſtrange Diſcoveries of a perpetual Sun-ſhine, Happineſs and Proſperity coming upon us *All*: But within a while, we ſhall find it black, lowring and tempeſtuous all about us, and ſuddenly we ſhould have it *thundered* in our Ears, that *Peace* ſhould thenceforth be a *ſtranger* to us, and that a *quiet* or an eaſy *Day* was no more to be expected in *Trinity-College.* —— *You* ſhall never have any *Degree.* Mr, ——. For what Reaſon I beſeech you,

you, Master? If he vouchsafes an Answer, 'tis in this proud, senseless and irreligious Strain. You are one of those impious Wretches that dare to disapprove of some of my Proposals; and can you hope for Justice at my Hands? Know therefore, once for all, that the *Scripture* speaks in *my* Name, when it says, *Them that honour me, I will honour*: This has always been, is, and shall be Dr *Bentley*'s Maxim.

This probably is what he alludes to when he gives the Reader that moving Account of the *Holy War* he has been waging here for *ten Years* together.——

——*Quibus cælo te laudibus æquem?*
Fastidium prius mirer, bellique labores?

What Panegyric can ever equal the height of so much Merit? Where shall we begin our Admiration of him? Shall we begin with his *Righteousness*, or his *Marvital* Character? Bless us!—— It would urge a Stone: It would draw Tears of generous Compassion and Indignation from the most hard-hearted *Myrmidon*, to see a Man of so much *Goodness* and *Piety*, striving so long with the wicked Perverseness of a Rubborn, stiffnecked Generation! Confin'd to *ten Years Drudgery, and fighting with Beasts at* Ephesus!

——*Tot volvere casus*
Insignem Pietate virum! tot adire labores!

'Tis true, it was St. *Paul*'s Case to encounter Brutes in humane Shape, when he was planting and propagating the *Christian Religion* among the *Ephesians*: And I have nothing to say against the *Application* of that Scripture Passage upon this

his Occasion. For I think the *Parallel* holds as exactly between *our* Character, and that of *those Ephesians*, as it does between *His* and St. *Paul's*. I am sure I would not wish to be farther from being a *Beast*, than *He* is from being a *Saint*, or an *Apostle*. Saint *Paul* did not fight to fill his Pocket; neither do the *Subscribers now* contend with Dr. *Bentley* upon Account of the *Purity* of his *Life* or *Doctrine*.

He speaks in the stile of Complaint, and, indeed, as if he thought his Cause was *desperate*, when he says his shining *Catalogue* of *Flowers* is the *sole Satisfaction* to him for the loss of his Time and Studies. And this I dare positively *predict*, that whenever he can raise his *Mastership* to the round plump Sum of a *Thousand Pounds a Year*, those Gentlemen will no longer enjoy the Honour of having it said by Dr. *Bentley*, that they are the *sole* Satisfaction to him for the loss of his Time and Studies.

As to what he says of his annually spending more than *Two Hundred* Pounds *above* all the Salary and Perquisites of his Mastership; 'tis no *News* to *me*, for he has told me as much before now. He has likewise told me, what, I suppose, he intends to take publick Notice of in another Place; that it has cost him *eight Hundred* Pounds in *Books*, merely to consult Occasionally for Remarks and *Criticisms* to furnish out his Edition of *Horace*. I can't tell what Inference he expects the World should draw from these sort of Declarations. I won't undertake, but if his Mastership were *Fifteen Hundred* Pounds a Year, he would annually spend more than *Two Hundred* Pounds *above* all the Salary and Perquisites: For he has his Ways and Means of being as *Extravagant* as 'tis possible to be: But

every

every body that *knows* him, I dare say, will undertake, That his *Hospitality* will never beggar him.

We are still, Sir, in his *fifty-fourth* Page; where he proceeds to clear himself farther from the Charge of *Violent and Unworthy Methods*. His *Methods*, he says, may be farther seen in the Words of the Reverend Dr. *Hutchinson* our *Leicestershire Dean*. They *may* so; For it was never known in this World, that the *Author* of the *Leicestershire Letter* ever closed with any Methods that were *not Violent and Unworthy*. Nor is the Man so much to be censur'd for this; since his *Constitution* is such as will not give him leave to *Act otherwise*. It is very notorious that *this* Gentleman has at several Times, and to several Persons, both publickly and privately, express'd himself, even upon the *slightest* Provocations, with the greatest *Bitterness* towards Dr. *Bentley*: of which, Sir, we have an Instance in Mr. *Miller's Remarques*, P. 126.

Nothing wou'd be more easy, if it were worth our *while* to insist upon the Particulars of his Polite *Epistle*, than to discover the *Reasons* and Motives that induc'd our *Leicestershire Author* so *readily* and *heartily* to come into Dr. *Bentley's* Measures; For he tells him immediately of the great *Obligation* he owes to him; and then strokes him up finely at last, by saying, That for his OWN part, HE has *Reason* to *Bless God for the Day wherein we had the Honour first to receive him amongst us*. The *Honour*, it seems, belongs in common to us *All*, but the *Blessing* and Happiness is all his *Own*.—

But nothing that Mr. *Dean* has said, one way or t'other, deserves to be mention'd; much less to be boasted of on Either Side.

And

And so let us return to Dr. *Bentley* and his *Violent* Methods. He says, *Page* 55, that Mr. *Miller* threatn'd Mr. - - - - - - - - Chaplain to the Right Honourable the Lord - - - - - - - with *the Resentment and Revenge of the Seniors, if he would not Subscribe.* If this be such a *Violent* Method, what a *violent* Man must Dr. *Bentley be?* For the true Account of what pass'd between Mr. *Miller* and that Gentleman is this. When the Petition was offer'd to him, He lik'd and approv'd it very well; He was only afraid, He said, of what the *Master* might do to him. So horrible a Notion had He, even at *that* time, of Dr. *Bentley*'s Furious and Revengeful Spirit. Mr. *Miller* said, to ballance the Matter, that perhaps the *Seniors* might be able to do as much. Upon which the Gentleman departed, telling Mr. *Miller* he wou'd not have him take it as a *Denial*, for he wou'd be with him again the next Morning. With that, having some Other Bus'ness with Dr. *Bentley*, he went and made him a Visit at Her *Majesty's Library*. Dr. *Bentley* took Occasion to speak of the *Petition*, and to ask him whether he intended to *Subscribe*; Whereupon this Gentleman said, that Mr. *Miller* had shewn him the *Petition*, and had told him that the *Seniors* might possibly take it *ill* if he refus'd to subscribe it. Dr. *Bentley* presently clap'd hold of him, and said, *You shall depose this upon Oath.* The Gentleman started to see himself seiz'd upon so oddly; and wonder'd where He was got. In his return home, he met with Mr. *W—s—d*, one of the Fellows of *Trinity* College; and finding, upon Enquiry, that He was going to Dr. *Bentley*, You had best have a Care, says he, what you say to Dr. *Bentley*, for He'll make You *depose* every thing upon *Oath.*

Dr. *Bentley* says in the same Page, It can be prov'd upon *Oath*, that Mr. *Modd* was *bector'd* in-

to his Subscription by *Cursing and Damning*, and that his *Heart* is not there, tho' his *Hand* is. No body can pretend to have so masterly a Talent at *Hectoring*, as Dr. *Bentley* has; and yet for all that, He has not been able to *Hector* Mr. *Modd* back to his *Own* Party, or to make him acknowledge that his *Heart* is not with Us; I doubt he finds quite the Contrary. 'Tis to be presum'd Mr. *Modd* knows his Own *Heart*, and his Own *Case* better than Dr. *Bentley* does. However, if his Heart is *not* to the Petition as well as his Hand, I really believe, I'm sure to the best of my Knowledge, it is *His* peculiar Case *alone*.—And thus much it may suffice to say concerning Dr. *Bentley's Violent and Unworthy Methods*.

In the next place, Sir, He holds the *Petitioners* exceedingly in *Derision* for lamenting that the *Peace of the College has for many Years been wholly broken, the Statutes violated, the Goods of the College wasted, and many of the Fellows reduc'd to great Necessity*. I grant He is not content to put it off merely with a *Laugh*: For He *argues* too very shrewdly and strenuously against the *Truth* of it; He says, he has elected *above Forty Fellows*, and *more than* a Hundred Scholars: From whence it follows plainly, to a *Demonstration*, That the *Peace* of the College cannot possibly have been broken, nor the *Statutes* violated, nor the *Goods* of the College wasted, nor, *&c.*

Page 56.

At first sight, a body wou'd be apt to imagine, from his having made such a vast *Number* of Fellows, and Scholars, that the *Peace* of the College had certainly been *very much* broken; since People, it seems, have been so forward to make *Vacancies* by quitting the *Place*. But no sooner does *He* step in with the Hειδαγων of his Own Authority, but we are oblig'd to abandon our Reason, and believe that it proves the direct Contrary.

rary. Accordingly, I do allow that this is *such* n Argument and Token of *Peace* in all *His* Time, s not *One* of his *Predeceſſors* ſince the Foundation *wou'd* ever have ſhewn for his *Own*.

But that *part* of the Argument, wherein He ays that in all theſe Elections He has not had *One Negative* put upon him by *a Majority of Se-niors*, ſhou'd have been omitted; nor ſhall I ever e prevail'd upon, by any Ὑπόκρισις in the World, to admit *That* for Truth, which I know o be Falſe in *Fact*. Of which I ſhall ſpeak nore directly, by and by. However, He is leas'd to flouriſh and rejoice at a mighty rate, nd to make no ſmall *Parade*, about an Inſtance e gave at his Firſt Coming, of his *Impartial*, nd *Sincere* Dealing. He ſays, He "Found the *Maſter*, by *Cuſtom*, poſſeſs'd of a great Privi-lege in Elections, which gave him a Negative at leaſt againſt any of the Candidates. But not finding this Power at all warranted by Statute, He voluntarily abandon'd it at the very firſt Election."

But now, becauſe He is ſo wondrous apt to o-ervalue himſelf upon every the ſmalleſt ſurmiſe f his Own *ſeeming Honeſty*; before He pretends o be ſo very Uppiſh upon this Occaſion, He wou'd do well, if He wou'd lay to Heart, what Wiſe old *Roman* ſaid, once upon a time: ---- *Fraus fidem in parvis ſibi præſtruit, ut quum per æ pretium ſit, cum mercede magnâ fallat.** 'Tis he very Rule of *Fraud* and Injuſtice, to make n *appearance* of Integrity, to get the *Name* of a Man of Probity in *little ſuperficial* Matters; that o when you find it *worth your while*, You may nake your *Fortune* by a good *bold ſubſtantial Cheat*. f Dr. *Bentley* pleaſes to conſider this Obſerva-ion, He will perhaps excuſe Us, if we happen o be of Opinion, That His parting ſo readily

* Qu. Fab. Max. apud Livium. L. 28.

with a little inſignificant *Fragment* of Power in Elections, is not *ſufficient* to clear him from thoſe Crimes of *Arbitrary* and *Tyrannical* Government, whereof One *Catiline* is ſaid to have accus'd *Cethegus*.

Here, Sir, we have an Opportunity to ſay ſomething farther of what I was ſpeaking of but juſt now; His not having *One Negative* put upon him by a *Majority* of *Seniors*. He ſays 'tis no ſmall ſign of *their* Opinion both of his Ability and Integrity in Examinations, That *He never in Ten Years propos'd One as the fitteſt Perſon for their Choice, who did not obtain it.*

In theſe Words, Sir, Dr. *Bentley* does actually ſay, that *NON* is an *Affirmative*. It wou'd be ſuperfluous to take any farther Notice of his *Ability* and *Integrity* in Examinations, than what we have already done, in Anſwer to what he ſays in his *Thirteenth* Page.

------ Neq; ego illi detrahere auſim
Hærentem capiti multâ cum laude coronam.

But I will undertake to *reduce* to his Memory *One* Example, which plainly contradicts and *caſſates* his vain Brag, by which he pretends, He never had *One Negative* put upon him by the *Seniors*. I know He'll be ſtrangely apt to forget it in his *next* Paper, and that makes me reſolve to mention it in *Time*; for 'tis moſt undoubtedly True, that about ſeven Years ago, I appear'd as a Candidate for a Fellowſhip in *Trinity* College: Dr. *Bentley* happen'd *then* to be violently againſt *Pre-elections*; no body whatever was to hope, or ſo much as to *think* to be *Pre-elected*; He cou'd not endure to *hear* of it: No-----'twas ſuch a thing------ He wou'd *never* do it: Not even for any *Son* or *Brother* of his *Own*------ Well; there being then, as there commonly are, more

Pre-

Pretenders than *Vacancies*; if I had not had a ſpecial Friend in a Corner that was willing to reſign his Fellowſhip rather than I ſhou'd go without one, I *muſt* have gone without one. And I believe Dr. *Bentley wiſhes* upon this Occaſion, that I had been thrown out; for *then probably* the *Liſt of thoſe* that have *ſubſcrib'd againſt Him*, had not been ſo numerous, by *One*.

However, to bring my Story nearer to the *Purpoſe* and a Concluſion; When all was over, He aſſur'd *Me*, He aſſur'd ſeveral *Other* Perſons, That he *propos'd me* to the *Seniority* as a *fitter* Man for their Choice than one Mr.——, who notwithſtanding carry'd it againſt me by the Votes of the *Seniors*. This, if it be neceſſary, can be *depos'd upon Oath*, not only by Me, but by Other Gentlemen of as good Credit as Dr. *Bentley*, or any of his *Deponents*.

Now, if Dr. *Bentley* pleaſes to take his Choice, *which* he will ſtick to, let him. For it is evident he *has* ſaid that *NON* is an *Affirmative*, either *now* in his *Letter*, or to *Me* and Others upon another Occaſion: If his *Letter* be True, let him account for his *Hypocriſy* in aſſerting to *Us*, with ſo much Solemnity, the direct *Contradiction* of what he has *here* laid down: If what he ſaid to *Us* was True, then let him ſee what *Evaſion* he can find out in Arreſt of Judgment, why the Reader ſhou'd not proceed to paſs Sentence againſt him, as againſt a Perſon Abſolutely *Self-condemn'd*, for declaring openly in this *Letter* of his, that *NON* is an *Affirmative*.

Dr. *Bentley*, Sir, *neither will nor dares* deny this Matter I have been ſpeaking of. Nor do I deſire to have it thought, as I'm afraid it will by ſome be thought, that I ſay this merely out of *Compliment* to him, when, in ſpight of ſo many *ſtrange* Things as have already been made out

upon him, I ſtill *ſuppoſe* him *incapable* of ſpeak-ing *wickedly* againſt manifeſt Truth.

I wou'd not have Dr. *Bentley* impute this Diſ-covery I have made to any private, Perſonal *Re-ſentment*, and ſo place it under the Head of the *Known Perquiſites* of a *Maſter* of a College. For, as *Known* a *Perquiſite* as it is, I promiſe him he ſhou'd never have had it from *Me*, but that I ſcorn to with-hold from any Man his *Notorious Due*. *See Dr.* B.'s *Letter*, p. 51. l. 35. & p. 22 l. 20.

He is pleas'd it ſeems, to own, in this *Fifty-ſixth* Page of his Book, *that all the Fellows of His Ten Years* were bright and glorious Men, and that they *had as much of His Approbation as if He had choſen them ſolely Himſelf*. Tho' *Now*, I be-lieve, ſince *This* great *SHAKE* to *AUTHO-RITY*, he dares not anſwer ſo much: And I doubt He will ſcarce any longer allow *Me* to have had *as much* of his *Approbation*, as if I had been *of his own* ſole *Chuſing*.

'Tis true indeed, He is *willing and bold to ſay* That notwithſtanding *Two* of his Ten Years Fellows have been *expell'd*, and *more of 'em are a-mong the Subſcribers*, yet *there has not been a ſeque-of ſo many and ſo good Scholars (at the Times of their Election) in any Society whatever ſince the Uni-verſities were heard of*. This again is ſpoken like a Man ------- *Supra Captum ſeculi ſui*. For does there exiſt any Mortal Man who has ſo far *repudiated* Common Senſe, as not to ſee, that Dr. *Bentley* has here advanc'd, for certain and evi-dent Matter of *Fact*, what it is morally *Impoſſible* for *Him* or any Body *elſe* to *prove*, or be aſſur'd of? It is, in *His Aſſertion*, Falſe, were it even *really* True.

But it is not enough for a Perſon of Dr. *Bent-ley*'s great Soul to compel People to own, that never

never so unwillingly and unreasonably, that the Gentlemen under *his* Government are the *Best Scholars in the World*: But he must produce an undeniable Argument that the *Youth* of his College give every Day promising hopes of a *still greater* Advance in Fame and Learning. A Point most effectually establish'd by the *Testimony* of Mr. *Laughton* our *Proctor*, where he *certifies* that he has *never found any Under-Graduate or Batchelor of* Trinity *College in any of the Publick Houses in the Town.*

Mr. *Laughton* is certainly a very Learned and Deserving Person: And for that Reason, I believe, he won'd never have given Dr. *Bentley* such a *Certificate*, if he had thought of its being so *miserably* and *ridiculously* hawl'd in, to prove what can never, by the remotest Inference, be concluded from it. - - - - - - - The Under-Graduates and Batchelors of *Trinity* College have never been taken by Mr. *Laughton* in any Publick Houses; *Therefore* they can't fail of a *still greater* Advance, that is, of being *Better* Scholars *than* the *Best* that ever were. Which is just as if any One shou'd say to Dr. *Bentley*,

- - - - - - - - *Non pasces in cruce corvos:*

Therefore you can't fail of a *still greater Advance*, that is, of being made a *Bishop* before you die; and so *consequently* of dying *Comfortably!*

These little idle Busnesses, His valuing himself upon *Nothing*, and his fretting and vexing about *Nothing*, are a plain Indication of his insatiable Thirst after Vain-Glory and Pre-eminence. One while he is dejected and cast down, and stomachs it highly, that the *Seniors* shou'd be call'd a *Governing Part*; then here he comes in great Triumph, and looks big upon the World, be-

cauſe *Mr.* Laughton *has not taken any Undergraduates or Batchelors of* TRINITY-*College, in any of the Publick Houſes!* —— What *Maſter* of a College in *England*, beſides *Himſelf*, would *think* of having recourſe to ſuch *poor*, *low* Topicks in order to approve himſelf the *Beſt* of Governors!

Sic leve, ſic parvum eſt, animum quod laudis avarum
Subruit aut reficit! ———

But here, Sir, in this *Fifty Seventh* Page, he goes on to entertain and divert the Reader and himſelf with what, he ſays, *is yet more deplorable than the long want of Peace*; and that is, That the *Statutes too have been violated, and the Goods of the College waſted.* He wou'd fain have it paſs for an Argument of his *Innocence*, that the worſt that can be ſaid of him, has no farther Impreſſion upon his Spirits, than juſt what is requiſite to work him up to a convenient Pitch for being *Merry*, and playing the *Buffoon*: Accordingly we find him moſt prodigiouſly *ſharp* and *witty* upon Mr. *Miller*; inſomuch that he allows him to be a very *Galen* in the *Law!* That is to ſay, He allows him to be as great a Man in the *Law*, as *Galen* was in *Phyſic*. Mr. *Miller*, I believe, is ſo *modeſt*, as to take this for a mere *Compliment*: And having allow'd Dr. *Bentley* as great a Character in *Divinity*, he has *truly* anſwer'd him in his *Own* way; if Dr. *Bentley* wou'd but have the Modeſty to underſtand him aright.

'Tis certain however that thoſe two *Clauſes* concerning *Violation of Statutes*, and *waſting the College-Goods*, had never been brought into the *Petition*, if there had not been plain Matters of *Fact*, to warrant and ſupport *'em*.

'Tis much below our Curioſity to enquire, where Dr. *Bentley* cou'd pick up his little Goſſiping

ing Story about Mr. *Miller*'s Hopes to repreſent the *Univerſity*. What? Is he afraid Mr. *Miller* ſhou'd bring him before the *Houſe of Commons*? or what is it that occaſions all this *Outcry*? Why won't he break his Mind to the World, a little more particularly, about this Matter? Why won't he produce his weighty Reaſons in *Bar* to Mr. *Miller*'s hopes of *Repreſenting* the *Univerſity*? Why does n't he *ſpecify* his Objections in due Time, that ſo we may judge whether they are *ſufficient* to put him *By*? Perhaps the Generality of People ſee no more cauſe for being alarm'd at Mr. *Miller*'s putting up for *Parliament-Man*, than they do for being agaſt at Dr. *Bentley*'s reckoning *himſelf* next *Oars* to a *Biſhoprick*! Perhaps there are thoſe in Being, who, if they ſhou'd live to ſee *Him* in the *Houſe of Lords*, might complain leſs *Mal à propos*, and have more Voices to ſecond 'em with an O *Tempora*! O *Mores*! than he, I believe, will find in his Attempt to run down Mr. *Miller*.

As for *violation of the Statutes*, he ſeems to be of Opinion that Few beſides *Himſelf*, *know what it is*. *Practically* indeed, I believe 'tis odds but He outſtrips *Every Body* in this ſort of Knowledge. And this is plain, that the more exact his Knowledge is, ſo much the greater is his *Condemnation*, if he be found to have acted contrary to the Light of his own Mind, by a Deliberate *Violation* of the *Statutes*.

In the mean time, I have One thing to object againſt what he ſays here, in his *Fifty Eighth* Page. —— I find he lays down a *Rule* in his *Fifty First* Page, which he does not care to ſtand to in *This*. THERE *He affirms that the ſame Crime is really greater in a Fellow than in a Scholar, and calls for a ſeverer Puniſhment in the former than in the latter.* HERE *He complains that 'twou'd go hard indeed*

with

with a Maſter, if what in a Fellow is even Statutably Atton'd by the Mulct of a Groat, or ſometimes a Penny, muſt in him be vindicated with Expulſion.

Firſt of all, Sir, He knows the *Petitioners* do not proceed in their Complaint againſt him upon ſuch trifling *Peccadillo's*, as he ſays are, in a *Fellow*, Statutably atton'd by the *Mulct of a Groat*. They bear him no Ill-will at all, any farther than he has been guilty of *Subverting the Will of the Founder*; and that in a more flagrant manner than it is *poſſible* for any *Fellow* to be. And ſuppoſing the Faults in themſelves be never ſo *equal*, 'tis but applying the *Rule* of his *Fifty Firſt* Page, and what becomes of him then? For, ſure *He* will not deny a much greater *Diſtance* between *Himſelf* and a *Fellow*, than there can be ſuppos'd to be between a *Fellow* and a *Scholar*! The great *Truſt* and *Power* lodg'd in *Him*, as *Maſter* and *Governor*, and the many *Privileges* and *Perquiſites* coming to him from that Station, beſides the vaſt Elevation of his Perſonal Fame and Merit, quite baffle any Attempt of a Compariſon between *Him* and *Us*.

Now, what is His *Rule*? Why, That in the ſame *Proportion* as the *Maſter* is above a *Fellow*, in ſuch Proportion, the ſame Crime is really *ſo much* greater, and calls for *ſo much* a ſeverer Puniſhment upon the Former, than upon the Latter. Where then, according to his own Maxim, wou'd the *Hardſhip* be, though the ſame Crime ſhou'd be *Vindicated* more ſeverely upon the *Maſter*, than upon a *Fellow*? *Vides, opinor, τὸ σόλοικον & ἀναπόλωδον: Neq; enim τῇ πρωτάσει reſpondet ἀπόδοσις.**

His *Rule* is certainly Right; and therefore his Obſervation here in this Place ſs evidently wrong.

* Bentleij Emendat. ad Tuſc. Quæſt. *p.* 56.

The

The Statute says expresly, that if the *Master* be found Guilty of *Violating any Statute*, or of any thing *Like* it, He is without more ado to be turn'd out by the *Visitor*.

Well, but *for Violation of the Statutes*, he says, He leaves it to be examin'd whether *He* or the *Seniors* have been guilty of that Crime. He produces *Four* Articles against the *Seniors*; All of which, according to his own *Definition* and *Practice*, it is at least very *Doubtful*, whether they are properly *Violations* of the *Statutes* or no. And Two of 'em *He* is as much guilty of as *They*; having acquiesc'd and concurr'd in 'em for *Ten Years* together.

But now to produce something in this way that concerns the *Master*: tho' I don't pretend to enumerate *All* the Particulars that might be alleg'd; yet I shall Transcribe Two or Three Passages from the *Statutes*, and then sum up the Matter in as short a Compass as I can. In the First Chapter of the Statutes I find thus. —— * *That the Holy Worship of God may be piously and religiously perform'd in the College every Day, there shall be One and Twenty Persons appointed for that Office, Four of which shall be Priests, and shall be call'd Chaplains.* In the Second Chapter the *Master* takes an Oath in this Form. *I, R. B.* † *do swear, and calling God to witness, do promise and engage my self to take care, that all the Officers, Fellows, and Scholars, and other Members of the College shall diligently discharge their several Offices.* In the Forty Sixth

* *Stat. Cap.* 1. Sint Viginti unus ad Sanctum Dei cultum piè & religiosè exequendum, quorum Quatuor sint PRESBYTERI, & appellentur Sacellani.

† *Cap.* 2. Ego Juro, ac Deo teste, promitto & spondeo Me —— ut Officiarii omnes, socii ac Discipuli cæteraq; Collegii Membra diligenter suum faciant Officium curaturum.

Chap-

Chapter there are these Words—— * *Towards the accurate Observation of Laws and Statutes the first thing requir'd is an accurate Knowledge of them, which cannot be firmly settled and fix'd in Mens Minds, without frequent reading 'em. We do therefore appoint and ordain, That upon the first* Friday *after the ending of every* Term, *the Bell shall be rung, and all the Fellows, Scholars, Pensioners, Sizars, and Subsizars, being call'd together in the Chapel at One a Clock in the Afternoon, a Fourth Part at least of the Statutes shall be read by the Deans, that so by this Means the whole Body of 'em may be gone through within the Compass of the Year; with that Design and Prospect, That every one may know his Duty, and perform it accordingly, to the best of his Power.*

All the Use I intend to make of these Passages will be only to joyn 'em with some Other Particulars of like Nature, and then to resolve a few Enquiries concerning those Matters Dr. *Bentley* desires may be examin'd into with relation to *Himself.*

By the same Will and Decree of the *Founder,* No Fellow nor Member of the College can be expell'd by the *Master alone* without Consent of *a Majority of Seniors:* By the same Will and Decree of the Founder, every Fellow and Scholar is to have a Chamber allow'd him to dwell in

* *Cap.* 46. Ad accuratam Legum & Statutorum Observationem accurata eorundem cognitio cum primis requiritur, quæ sine crebrâ eorum Lectione in animis hominum firmè insidere non potest: Et propterea statuimus & ordinamus ut die Veneris proximè post finem cujusq; termini pulsatâ campanâ, & omnibus Sociis, Discipulis, Pensionariis, Sisatoribus, & Subsisatoribus in Sacellum convocatis horâ prima post Meridianâ, quarta minimum pars Statutorum per Decanos legatur, uti intra annum integrum omnia hoc modo evolvantur, eo consilio ut quisq; plenè suum Officium cognoscat, cognitumq; pro virili exequatur.

Rent-

Rent-free; nor has the *Master* any thing to do to demand, or appropriate to himself any Chamber, or the Rent of any Chamber, having already superabundant Accommodation in his own Lodge. Now therefore let me ask and answer a few Questions. —— Who was it that appointed *a Lay-Man* to hold the Place, and receive the Salary and Perquisites of a *Chaplain*, for Seven Years, against the positive Directions, and express Words of the Statutes, which say that the *Four Chaplains* shall be in *Priests Orders*? Dr. *Bentley*. —— Who is it that is sworn to see that all the Officers and Members of the College shall diligently discharge their several Offices? Dr. *Bentley*. —— Have the Statutes been publickly read according to what is enjoin'd in the *Forty Sixth* Chapter? Never but *Once* these Ten Years: And that for *filthy Lucre's sake*, out of Passion and Self-Interest; when Dr. *Bentley* order'd it to be done *in Terrorem*, for a Scare-Crow, because one of the College-Officers demurr'd a little about paying a Bill brought in to him upon the *Master*'s Account. —— Can People be suppos'd to know their Duty without the Statutes being read? Or can they be answerable for the neglect of their Duty when they don't know what it is? The Statute says, No. The Statute supposes quite otherwise. —— Whose Business is it to see that the Statutes are read? Dr. *Bentley* is Sworn to make it his Business. —— Upon whom then must all the bad Consequences of such an Omission be charg'd? Upon Dr. *Bentley* without all Question. He is hereby guilty of an *immediate* Violation of the Statutes himself, besides the *Accessary* Guilt that comes upon him, from every Particular Breach of 'em in any Other particular Man. —— Who has expell'd Members of the College without Consent of a *Majority of Seniors*,

and

and againſt thoſe other Circumſtances declar'd by the Statutes to be neceſſary in order to every ſuch Expulſion? Dr. *Bentley* has, —— Who has invaded the *Rights* and *Properties* of the Society, by taking to himſelf ſeveral *Chambers*, to the Tune of about *Twenty Pounds* a Year, ſo that ſeveral, even of the Fellows, are forc'd to be without any Chamber, tho' the Statutes have plainly allotted to *Every* Man *One*. —— This alſo Dr. *Bentley* has done.

But without doubt he has his Orders to produce out of *the College Regiſter*, to countenance, and bear him out in all theſe things. Or, if the worſt come to the worſt, he has an idle empty *Jingle* ready at hand, that will ſolve a Thouſand ſuch ſilly Objections: And no Man can have any thing to reply, when Dr. *Bentley* puts himſelf into a Poſture of Sapience, and tells him very gravely, *That a Statute may, and ought to be broken, on purpoſe that it may be kept!* Of which he gives an Example in an Order drawn up by Himſelf, with his *Reaſons* for altering the Hour appointed by the *Founder* for Declaiming. There needs not much be ſaid to confute all that he goes upon in this Article: The Article may very well be ſpar'd, tho' 'tis certain it may alſo very well be made One Article *againſt Him*. It is far from being True, that, according to the former Practiſe, the College *proceeded to Declamations immediately after Grace in the Hall*. There was a conſiderable ſpace allow'd, and generally by that time the Declamations were begun, every Body was at Liberty and Leiſure to be preſent: I can remember what ſort of an Audience there us'd to be, and I don't find that there is a Better or a Fuller now, than there was before, take One time with Another.

This

This I'm sure is one bad Effect that arises from having them immediately after Prayers, That it makes 'em insufferably *Tedious*, and very much diminishes the Relish that people might Otherwise have for such Performances. Some Men can't bear to attend so long without Intermission; and to my Knowledge there are those who have Absented from Prayers, on *Saturday Nights*, upon this very account, because they cou'd not endure the Confinement of *sitting out Three long Declamations* as soon as ever Divine Service was over. If there be any Benefit arising from the Alteration that can contrevail this Inconvenience, it must be something more than I am at present aware of.

The Question then is, Whether such Reasons as Dr. *Bentley* pretends to give in his *Fifty Ninth* Page, are *sufficient* to over-rule the direct positive Words of the *Statute*: I believe there is no Man in his Wits but sees they are *not sufficient*. He shews indeed by this a very bold and dangerous Spirit of *Innovation*; and that's the *Best* that can be made on't. For, when he talks of *Change of Times and Circumstances*, and *that in some Cases a Statute may and ought to be broken*: All this is perfectly Talking for Talking's sake; nor is it *possible* He shou'd *mean* any thing by it, but to puzzle and amuse here and there an Unthinking Body. For what great *Difficulty* cou'd there be in settling such a Matter as *this*; that the *Wisdom* of the *Founder* shou'd not be able to foresee the Inconveniencies it wou'd be attended with in after Times, as well as *He* can pretend to be sure that His *Alteration* is, and will be for the Better? What new *Cases* have happen'd? What wonderful *Change of Times* and *Circumstances* has *He* discover'd, that will be thought in any Degree pertinent to this Affair? - - - - In short, How the *Mind* of the Statute has been observ'd,

obſerv'd, in This New Device, by receding from the *Letter*, is, to this very Hour, to every Man of the Society, a moſt confounding Riddle.

He has the Conſcience to tell my Lord of *Ely*, that by *This Order* a full Audience of the Whole Society is made Every *Saturday* in the Year. He *actually means, and muſt mean*, That All the Fellows and Members of the College are preſent at Declamations every *Saturday* in the Year. He might as well have affirm'd, that by *this Order* the College *Revenue* has been rais'd a *Thouſand Pounds* a Year: For this I'm ſure wou'd have been as True as the Other. And, *ſince* this Order, He ſays the *Noble-Men* and *Fellow-Commoners* have Declaim'd in their Courſe. As if they cou'd not, or wou'd not have done ſo but for this *Order!* ---- But the Order was paſs'd, You ſee, *by the Conſent of the Seniors*. What if it was? What if they are ſo good Natur'd, or ſo over Complaiſant to comply with Him in Tranſgreſſing the Statutes? Yet ſince *He* is the *firſt Mover* in all theſe irregular Projects and Deviations from the *Founder's Will*; 'tis but reaſonable *He* ſhou'd *anſwer* for All. ---- What poor, thin, hungry Stuff is all that He advances upon this Occaſion!

But, the *Goods of the College too have been waſted*, ſay the Petitioners. ---- Yes, they do ſay ſo. And what has the mighty Dr. *Bentley* to ſay in Anſwer to it? Why He has to ſay in Anſwer to it, *That the Statute Word is Dilapidation*. Which undoubtedly makes good his Claim to thoſe *general Epithets* of *Eruditiſſimus, Præſtantiſſimus*, Πολυμαθέστατος, *Illuſtris!* For, *Dilapidation*, He wou'd have the World believe, can ſignify nothing elſe but a *Building's being run to Ruin, and out of Repair*. Let him turn to his *Lexicons*, and ſee whether He can find it ſo reſtrain'd. *Dilapidatio*, is us'd by

by *Livy* for a *waſtful ſpending*: And ſo is the *Verb* us'd by * *Terence*, *Priuſquam dilapidet noſtras triginta minas*: And there is this Note upon the Place, *Dilapidare* eſt, *bona & ſubſtantiam diſſipare, & nepotum more concoquere.* *Sic* Cicero ad Auguſtum: *Publicam dilapidabat pecuniam; ærarium exhauriebat.* And ſo *Dilapido, decoquo, conſumo, diſperdo*, are ſet down in the *Latin* Dictionaries, as Words of a Parallel Import. *Dilapidare* is the ſame as διαπαῦειν, † *diſſipare, prodigere, aperdere* διαπαῦειν. It ſignifies *to ſquander away*, to *embezle*, and, as we ſay, to *make Ducks and Drakes of Money.*

And yet, to help him out at a dead lift, and to give him a handle for enlarging upon his Own Praiſes, Nothing muſt be meant by *Dilapidation*, but juſt the *tumbling down of Stones* from a ruinous *Building* gone to decay. Upon this little Hint, away he runs to *This Garret*, and *t'other Garret*, and carries you about into every Hole and Corner of the College, to ſhew what rare Improvements *He* has made in the Publick Buildings; and how abſurd a thing it is to Charge *Him* with *Dilapidation*, with *waſting the College Money and Goods*, when 'tis plain there is not a *Stone* amiſs in the whole *Fabrick!*

It has been told Him by Perſons of *Senſe and Candor*, that when He *left* us, *He* might ſay of the *College*, what *Auguſtus* ſaid of *Rome*, *Lateritium inveni, Marmoreum reliqui.* Of his *Own Lodgings* He may *truly* and *literally*, tho' not very *honourably*, ſay it; but of the *Reſt* of the College, he can't, for Shame pretend to any thing like it. However, 'tis pity, He has not already an Opportunity to verify ſuch an *Application*, in re-

* Terent. Phorm. Act. 5. Scen. 7. † Apud Conſtantinum Edit. 1592.

gard to the moſt *Important* part of that *Sentence*; which can never belong to Him till He has *left* us.

But He begins to be particular; mentions the *decay'd antiquated Model of the Chapel*, and tells you what a *dirty ſooty Place* the *Hall* was, till *He* brought it to ſuch an Excellent Pitch of *Cleanlineſs* and *Magnificence!* Here now ſeems, in this Paſſage, to be Noble Work cut out for Future *Antiquaries* and *Criticks*; whoſe Diligence and Curioſity may tempt 'em to draw their Pens in Learned and *Prolix Diſſertations*, to ſettle the grand *Æra*, when *Brooms*, *Mops* and *White-waſh* were firſt reſtor'd to *Trinity* College: And perhaps ſome among 'em of a more accompliſh'd *τυχη* than the Reſt, will evidently *Demonſtrate* by proper Circumſtances and Arguments, That Dr. *BENTLEY* muſt neceſſarily have been the *Firſt that diſcover'd the* UNKNOWN USE *of thoſe Cleanly* and *Magnificent Implements*, and *ſucceſsfully apply'd 'em to demonſtrate*, That He cou'd not poſſibly be Guilty of having WASTED THE GOODS of *Trinity* College!

Well: He goes on with his Particulars. The *Maſter's Apartment is metamorphos'd* into a Stately Royal Palace; and that, (who won'd have thought it?) from a *Spacious Jayl*; *Wanting* room in an *Exceſs* of it. Oh, the happy *Catachreſis!*—*Ovid* to the Life!——

——— *Inopem me copia fecit!*

But as for the Denomination of *Jayl*, notwithſtanding the ſplendid Improvements, it may be doubtful, whether the *Maſter's Apartment* may not ſtill with Juſtice retain it, in conſideration of the *Inhabitant* it is, for the moſt part, Honour'd with. However, this is certain, that the *Maſter's Apart-*

ment, whether Jayl or Palace, is Another plain *Demonſtration* that the GOODS OF THE COLLEGE have not been WASTED!----------

More Particulars:------ An old *ruinous Lumber-Hole* conjur'd all of a ſudden into an *Elegant Chymical Laboratory*, where *Courſes are annually taught by a Profeſſor!*------I'll tell you, Sir, a piece of ſecret Hiſtory concerning this *Lumber-Hole*.------- This *Lumber-Hole* you muſt know, Sir, lies juſt upon the edge of a *Bowling-Green* that belongs to the *Fellows*; which *Bowling-Green* that belongs to the Fellows, is parted but by a Brick-Wall, from a certain *Garden* that belongs to the *Maſter*: Which Maſter, Dr. *Bentley* by Name, having, as appears, a very notable projecting Head, thought it wou'd be a mighty pretty thing if he cou'd contrive it ſo as to juſtle out the *Fellows*; and lay this ſame *Bowling-Green* into his *Own* Garden: But the Fellows were not then in a Humour to be ſo ſerv'd. Cou'd it have been brought about, nothing in the World wou'd have been more Commodious than this *Old Lumber-Hole*. For if the Deſign had not miſcarry'd, Then had this old *Lumber-Hole* been an *Elegant Green-Houſe* for Dr. *Bentley*: But ſince they wou'd not do *That*, He reſolv'd He'd be even with 'em for their *Stubbornneſs*; and if it coſt them a *Hundred Pounds* the *Lumber-Hole* ſhou'd be made, and Conſtituted, and for ever after call'd, an *Elegant, Chymical Laboratory*. I am none of thoſe who glory in deſpiſing and running down *Chymical* Obſervations and Experiments; but yet with regard to this ſo famous *Laboratory* of Ours, I have talk'd with thoſe that have gone the Courſes, and they *All* ſeem to be of Opinion, That as thoſe Matters are manag'd, the *Learned* World is not like to reap any mighty Profit or Advantage

from any thing that is *There* taught.----- However, this *Quondam Lumber-Hole*, this *Now* Elegant Laboratory, is alſo Another clear *Demonſtration*, That the GOODS OF THE COLLEGE have nor been WASTED!

T'other Particular; and then He comes to ſum up all *In a Word*.----- The College Gate-Houſe rais'd up and improv'd to a ſtately *Aſtronomical Obſervatory*.----- Did not moſt of *Us* contribute Voluntarily out of our Own Pockets to that Improvement? And yet notwithſtanding, does not the finiſhing of it go on very ſlowly for want of Money to pay the Work-Men? Did not *He* calculate the whole Charge at leſs than a *Third* part of what it's like to come to? Nay, when *He* perſuaded Mr. *Cotes* to have the *Royal Patent* for being *Aſtronomy* Profeſſor; did not He tell him it cou'd not Coſt him above *Five* or *Six* Pounds, which was leſs by a HUNDRED than it came to? So nice a Contriver is He, and ſo exact his Skill in forecaſting the Charges and Expences of any great Deſign!-------- But ſtill the Concluſion holds good: And the College *Gate-Houſe* is Another Topping *Demonſtration*, That the GOODS of the COLLEGE have not been WASTED!

Here now comes in the glorious, the final and deciſive Stroke of all.----- *In a Word*, ſays He, *every Garret of the Houſe well repair'd and inhabited*. So that any Perſon that has once paſs'd thro' *Cambridge*, can with his own Eyes diſprove this groundleſs Charge of *Dilapidation*: Every *Garret* proclaiming aloud upon the Houſe Top, to every Traveller that rides along upon the *Cambridge* Road, that it is in *good Repair*, Wind-tight, and Water-tight. And theſe *Garrets* coming in at laſt, as a *Corps de Reſerve*, to ſupport, and aſſiſt thoſe Other preceding Particulars; make up One

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accumulative Argument as firm as *Adamant*; and Demonſtrate infinitely to the Confuſion of every *ſceptical* Gainſayer, That the GOODS OF THE COLLEGE have not been WASTED!

Well then may Dr. *Bentley* make his Challenge to the Reader, and relying on the Goodneſs of his Cauſe, cry out —— *Are theſe the ſigns of Dilapidation!* —— And well may the Reader Expoſtulate with Dr. *Bentley* in return —— Are theſe the ſigns of *No Dilapidation?* —— Are theſe the ſigns of a *Critical* Genius, to bring ſuch Articles as Theſe, in anſwer to a Charge of *Dilapidation?* To take it for granted, that *Dilapidation* can ſignify nothing elſe but letting a *Fabrick* run to Ruin? And then to overlay the Reader by heaping up a parcel of Pragmatical Inſtances of Work that has been done by Bricklayers and Maſons? —— Away! Away! You ſhou'd learn better Things: —— Indeed you ſhou'd! —— And then to ſay, that *in all theſe Repairs the Maſter always bears the greateſt Burden in the Expenſe!* —— Oh fie upon't! —— How cou'd it ever come into any Man's Head to talk at this rate? The Maſter always bears the greateſt Burden? —— How ſo? I beſeech you. —— What? Does the *Maſter* bear any more than his *Proportion*? Does not every *Other* Member bear his *Proportion*? —— And is not every Other Man's *Proportion* as great a *Burden* to Him, as the *Maſter's Proportion* is to the *Maſter*? ——

Is n't this a fine *Letter* for Dr. *Bentley* to write to the Biſhop of *Ely*, and then ſet his *Name* to it in *Print*? If I was to ask Dr. *Bentley*, how it comes to be poſſible for a Book of no greater Compaſs to contain ſuch a vaſt pack of Falſhoods and Follies? I believe the moſt ready Solution wou'd be, to Correct my ſelf, to beg his

Pardon, and to make him the Compliment, that *Martial* makes to *Cæsar* upon Another Occaſion. ——

Sed tamen eſſe Tuus *dicitur, ergo poteſt.*

To that part of the Petition, which ſays, that *many of the Fellows are reduc'd to great Neceſſity by his leſſening the Value of their Fellowſhips*: His Anſwer is, that He is *aſtoniſh'd.* —— For *my* Part, I am ſo *us'd to Him*, that I am not to be *aſtoniſh'd* at *any thing* He ſays: Not even when He talks here in his *Sixtieth* Page, of His having *rais'd* the *Publick Revenue of the College a Thouſand Pounds a Year above what He found it.* Nor when He talks in his *Sixty Firſt*, That our *Fellowſhips* have been *better* ſince *His* Time, than they were before. No, not even when He goes about to *prove* all this by comparing the *Number* of Dividends in His *Ten* Years, with thoſe in his Predeceſſor's *Seventeen*: And yet a Man that is not pretty *much us'd to Him*, wou'd really find it a hard Matter *NOT* to be *aſtoniſh'd*, to ſee ſuch a one as Dr. *Bentley* declaring ſolemnly to all the World, That in Dr. *Montagu*'s Seventeen Years there were *Nineteen* half Dividends; and that there have been *Fourteen* in *His* Ten Years. I'll allow him into his Number, the *Four* which He ſays are ready for Us now; tho' it is not every body wou'd be ſo generous: But then out of his *Other Ten*, I ſhall make bold to leave him but *Six*, and let him help himſelf how he can. For *Two* of 'em were Voted by Dr. *Montagu*, and *Two* of 'em went to put the *Chapel* into a leſs *Antiquated Model*: So that when the Accounts are duly Ballanc'd on Both ſides, *His* whole Number will be *Ten*, and Dr. *Montagu*'s *One and Twenty.* And yet, for all this, I Proteſt, I am not one

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bit aſtoniſh'd to ſee Him affirm here, as he does, that TEN is more to TEN, than ONE and TWENTY to SEVENTEEN. And indeed, why ſhou'd I? For I know the Man; and know him to have as bold and *Maſterly* a hand at *Contradictions*, as ever ſet Pen to Paper. A *Contradiction* is the ſame with *Him*, as a *Demonſtration* is to Other People: And this is the meaning of thoſe Words in His *Sixty Firſt* Page, —— *'Tis a Demonſtration then that their Fellowſhips have been better in My Time than before:* That is, *'Tis an expreſs Contradiction:* For it can't be made out without allowing, TEN to be much more to TEN (for ſo the Reckoning ſtands) than ONE and TWENTY to SEVENTEEN.

Then He tells my Lord what a miſerable Condition the College had been in if it had not been for *Him.* —— I ſuppoſe the *Sun* wou'd no longer ſhine, nor the *Rain* deſcend, nor the *Seaſons* continue their wonted Influence, if it were not for *Him*. Nay, ſeveral *Knowing* Men, it ſeems, have ſaid *in His Hearing*, That if *He* had not been ſent hither by a ſort of *Providence*, we had been forc'd long before this to ſhut the College Gates. He Himſelf, indeed, has ſaid in the Hearing of a *Noble Lord*, that He was ſent hither by ſuch Another *Providence*, as *Joſeph* was into *Egypt, to ſave us from Famine. Thoſe* who ſaid it to *Him*, I muſt grant to be *Knowing* Men; and that's it, that made 'em take care to ſay it in *His Hearing*: Yes, yes, they *knew* what they did; they *knew Him* and his *Blind ſides*, and how he was to be *manag'd*: They *knew* their only *Play* was to follow the Old Rule,

Creſcentem tumidis inſta ſermonibus utrem.

Here, before I go any farther, I can't but take Notice of a very refin'd *Inconsistency* towards the bottom of the *Sixty First* Page. The Words are these. "What can be said to some of these "Complainers? —— Who being opposite to a "Master in the whole turn of their *Lives*, hate "totally whatever he does, and grin and growl, "even at Benefactions." —— What cou'd be more unhappily put together, than the several parts of this Observation? Since from this very Passage we may easily and evidently gather, That *such Men as He describes in this Place*, cannot *possibly* be *opposite* to *Him* in the *Whole Turn* of their Lives.

He says, *My Lord's own Memory will recal* to him how the *Fellows clamour'd all over the Nation, that they were beggar'd and starv'd by the Expences of the Lodge.* And He pretends to take off the *Reasonableness* of that *Clamour*, by saying, That *in his First Three Years, while it was finishing, there were Three Whole Dividends (Six Thousand Pounds) paid among them.* Making no Conscience at all of taking One whole Dividend (that is, in his Own Estimation, Two Thousand Pounds) which he has no manner of Pretence to. There remains therefore but *Two* Dividends for his First Three Years: Because the Other must be ascrib'd to Dr. *Montagu*. This Distribution indeed, was made *while* the Lodge was finishing and fitting up. But who ever said, that the bare *setting* People to Work, or the Work's *going forward*, had beggar'd the College? *While* these Things were *in doing*, there might be Money enough. But then the *Paying off* so many *Bills*, and running the Society in *Debt*, did certainly *Impoverish* the *Fellows* very much, and lessen the Value of their *Fellowships*. How comes it else that the Fellows have as yet actually receiv'd but

One whole Dividend in all the following Seven Years? For that is really the Caſe. 'Tis plain, by the largeſt Allowances that can be granted him, there have been but *Ten Half* Dividends, or *Five Whole* ones in *His Ten Years.* For He *muſt not* be allow'd what plainly belongs to Dr. *Montagu*, nor what was *laid out upon the Chapel.* Well then; out of theſe *Five* Whole Dividends, Two, by his Own Account, were paid in his *Three Firſt* Years: And Two more he reckons as *Ready* for Us *now*; conſequently we have *not receiv'd 'em*; nay, they are not ſo much as *Voted* yet; and God Knows when we are like to ſee a Shilling of 'em: So that He may Talk his Heart out, and Reckon till *Doom's-Day*, before He can make it appear, that there has been any more than ONE whole *Dividend* fairly coming into the *Fellows Pockets*, for theſe SEVEN Years laſt paſt!

My *Own Memory will recall to me*, upon this Occaſion, a very *Barbarous* Expreſſion Dr. *Bentley* made Uſe of *once in my Hearing.* We were ſpeaking of the Great *Expenſe* the *Alteration* of the *Chapel* wou'd put the College to. And I was ſaying, That I thought there were ſeveral of the Fellows had little elſe to ſubſiſt upon beſide their *College Revenue*: That they cou'd ill ſpare ſo large a *Contribution*, and That they wou'd have ſome *Reaſon* to complain of being *Shor'n* ſo to the *Quick.* —— Pooh! ſays He, we muſt not mind That: I expect their Complaints: But that's Nothing: 'Twill be all one Twenty Years hence.

What muſt be the Reflexion now of any Reader that ſees Him pretending, (in ſpight of the ſtrongeſt plaineſt Evidence in the World on the Other ſide) to *Demonſtrate*, that *our Fellowſhips have been better in His Time than they were before?* What *ſort* of a *Man* muſt *He* be, that can Oppreſs, and Grind a *Whole Society*, and drain 'em

of

of their very *Subsistence* and *Livelihood*, and then call 'em all to naught, and load 'em with the *Bittereſt* Words and *foulest* Language He is Maſter of, purely becauſe they won't acknowledge *theſe Things* for Benefactions? —— What ſort of a *Temper* and *Spirit* muſt He be *poſſeſs'd* with, that can pour out ſuch a Torrent of filthy ſcurrilous Suggeſtions as He has done againſt His laſt Predeceſſor the *Honourable* Dr. *Montagu*? —— That can ſay, as He does here in his *Sixty Second* Page, —— *Had I been of Their Party, had I herded, and* SOTTED *with Them, had I ſuffer'd 'em to play their Cheats in their ſeveral Offices; I might have done what I wou'd; I might have devour'd* and *deſtroy'd the College, and yet come away with their Applauſes for a great and good Maſter*? ——

He might, with a *Better Conſcience*, have *ſuffer'd Them* to play their *Cheats* in their ſeveral Offices, than have play'd ſuch *Cheats Himſelf*, as are of infinitely *worſe* Conſequence than *All theirs* put together. Who is it He wou'd point out when He talks of SOTTING with the Fellows, *ſuffering* 'em to play their *Cheats*, *devouring and deſtroying* the *College*, and yet *coming away* with their Applauſe for a *Great and a Good* Maſter? —— Somebody He muſt *mean* here by this —— And He has declar'd Himſelf as far as He dares. —— How like a *Wretch* muſt He look, or what cou'd He find to ſay for Himſelf, if He were requir'd to *explain Himſelf farther* upon this Queſtion? ——

He has kept a *Supercilious Diſtance* between Himſelf and the Fellows; and this He calls, not being of their *Party*. —— He has grudg'd ſeeing 'em at his *Table*; and this was only becauſe He wou'd not SOT *with 'em*. —— He has ſqueez'd and defrauded 'em out of very near their *Whole Income and Support*; and this muſt be underſtood

to

to be only a Juſt and Vigilant *Superintendency*; a taking due Care that they might not *play their Cheats* in their ſeveral *Offices*. —— He has in a manner *devour'd and deſtroy'd* the College: And yet wou'd fain be thought to *Deſerve*, what he finds he is never like to *Obtain*, the *Applauſe* of having been *a Great and Good Maſter!*

One wou'd imagine he had no other Notion of the *Truſt* repos'd in him as *Maſter*, than juſt to make the *moſt* of his *Own Maſterſhip*, and take care the College *Fabrick* be kept in good order. *He* and the *Walls* make up the *whole College*. I'm ſure he has no more *Compaſſion*, no more *Conſideration* of *another* Man's Caſe, no more *Equity*, no more *Humanity* than the very Walls themſelves. —— He has been told the *Maſterſhip* of *Trinity-College* was worth a *Thouſand Pounds* a Year! —— What then? So have I heard it ſaid a *Fellowſhip* was worth a *Hundred*: Is this a Reaſon why I muſt *ravage* and *plunder*, and *prey* upon my Neighbour, and lay all *waſte* about me, becauſe I don't find it anſwer that Eſtimation? —— If he did not like the *Maſterſhip* upon the ſame Terms his *Predeceſſors* enjoy'd it, he might have *left it* long ago; No Body would have been his *Hindrance*.

What Pretence has he in the mean time to demand *Our Thanks* for *enriching himſelf* at *our Coſt*? Does he think he was made *Maſter* for no *other* End, but that the College *Eſtate* ſhou'd be all *at his Command*? —— Who, beſides himſelf, is the better for his looking out ſo ſharp among the College-*Officers*? We are much oblig'd to him indeed! He drives away the *Wolves* *, that he may have Us wholly to himſelf, and that the Spoil and the Booty may be all his *Own*.

* Ἀλλὰ λύκους εἴργει· τί γὰρ τὸ πλέον; εἰ τὸ φυλάττειν Ὅλους, εἴτε λύκοις, εἴτε καὶ σοὶ τοῦτο φυλακτέον.

Is it not a very Decent, a very *Chriſtian*, and Laudable ſort of *Behaviour*, for him to be *ſneering* and *inſulting*, making aukward *Jeſts*, and caſting uncharitable *Slanders* upon the *Fellows*, for thoſe very Calamities *He has brought upon 'em*, in Defiance of all that's *Juſt*? What a *Forehead* muſt it require, to talk at the rate that he does to my Lord of *Ely*? To add the rankeſt *Calumny* to *Oppreſſion* and *Violence*? To *Glory in his Shame*? To ſet up *Malice* and *Falſhood* for *Demonſtration*? To call *Evil Good*, and *Good Evil*? To *put Darkneſs for Light*, and *Light for Darkneſs*? To *put Bitter for Sweet*, and *Sweet for Bitter*?

"I own, ſays he, My Lord, *One* Truth Mr. "*Miller* has ſaid here, and it's the only one in "the whole Petition; *That ſome of the Fellows* "(every one of 'em His Subſcribers) *are reduc'd* "*to great Neceſſity.*" —— What? He wou'd have this *great Neceſſity* confin'd wholly among the *Subſcribers*, on purpoſe to make way for the TRUE *Reaſon* he intends to give of it? —— Yes; I am his Humble Servant! —— However, for once, I'll venture my *Fellowſhip* to a *Shilling*; the Odds I grant is not much; That I produce him *Twenty* Fellows Names, and there ſha'n't be *One Subſcriber* among 'em; I'll bring him a *conſiderable Majority* of his *Own Flowers*, his *Own Dear Non-Subſcribers*, who ſhall tell him openly to his *Face*, That they are reduc'd to great *Neceſſity*, and that *it is* by *His* having *Diminiſh'd the Value of their Fellowſhips*. I'll bring him *ſeveral* of his *ſhining Examples of Learning and Sobriety*, that ſhall ſay this, and a great deal more: Nay, more than ſo, I can aſſure him, and do hereby aſſure him, that what I now ſay is expreſly by *Direction* from *Them*, at Their Requeſt, in Their *Name*, and by *Their Authority and Commiſſion.*

Now

Now then let him produce his TRUE Reaſon: For he ſays it is not the *Diminiſhing their Fellowſhips*; That, it ſeems, he has refuted already, to a DEMONSTRATION. Yes, by *placing that on the account of Gain, which is manifeſtly on the ſide of Charge and Loſs.* But as I take it, there is no manner of Arrogance in ſaying, That I have refuted his Demonſtration to a Demonſtration. The time has been, and that within the Memory of Man, when the Fellows had annually *Fifty Pounds* apiece in Dividend: The time has been, when they had *Five and Twenty Pounds* a Year each. At laſt comes Dr. *Bentley*, and brings it down to FIVE AND TWENTY Pounds apiece, and no more, in SEVEN Years: And then DEMONSTRATES, that if the Fellows are reduc'd to *great Neceſſity*, the TRUE Reaſon of it cannot poſſibly be the DIMINISHING the *Value* of their *Fellowſhips*! —— Commend me to ſuch a *Demonſtrator!*

But where's his TRUE Reaſon all this while? For methinks 'tis a long time a coming.—— Ay; but when it comes, you'll ſay, 'twas worth ſtaying for! I can tell you that! —— Well; but what is it? — What is it? Why, Firſt, 'tis *not the Diminiſhing of their Fellowſhips*; d'ye mark me? — Very good! No; that's plain enough! But what *is* it? —— Why, 'tis not the *Leſſening* of Thoſe: You underſtand me, don't you? —— Oh, Sly! — Oh, Fine! — But cou'dn't you let a Body know what *it is*? —— Not directly all at once; That wou'd not be ſo well. But you ſhall know that it is the *Increaſing of ſomething elſe!* —— Oh, Arch! —— Oh, Clever! —— Well, I vow this Dr. *Bentley*'s a ſweet-pretty Man. But that *ſomething elſe*, won't you let me know what *that* is? —— All in good time. What need you be in ſuch haſte? —— Oh Dear,

I long to know what that *ſomething elſe* is! —— Well then; if you won't ſay any thing —— Hark ye, in your Ear —— Between you and me, *He actually means*, and *muſt mean the Price of Claret* —— So; now 'tis out. ——

And is this the Sum of Dr. *Bentley*'s Wit and Argument? —— No: But 'tis the Sum of what in *Him* ſupplies the Place of Wit and Argument; *Malice* and *dull Billinſgate*. There is no manner of Jeſt or Wit in any of theſe things;

——— *Non eſt jocus eſſe malignum*:

They are *Stupid*, and they are *Falſe*. But by this ſort of *Traſh* He hopes to divert and detain the Reader, and to keep his Eye off from thoſe groſs and flaming *Abuſes*, which He finds himſelf Charg'd with by the *Subſcribers*, and which all his *Quirks* and *Fallacies* can never be able to palliate, or clear him from, ſo long as People *attend* to the True *Merits* of the Cauſe, or mind what they are about. And this, of all things in the World, does, in the ſtrongeſt manner, Convict him of a Tyrannical Spirit; that is, of a *Slaviſh*, and yet an *Imperious Domineering* Temper.

For 'tis the *Worſt* of Tyranny and Uſurpation, that pretends to make People deny, ſhrink from, and abandon their Own Reaſon and Underſtanding, in the plaineſt Matters: As *He* does, when He goes about Bragging that He has DEMONSTRATED, *Ten* to be *More* to *Ten*, than *One and Twenty* is to *Seventeen*. And 'tis the *Worſt* of *Slavery* too, a Mark of the moſt ſervile *abject Soul*, when a Man dares not *Own* the Truth that makes againſt him. When ſome little ſordid, *ſcandalous Intereſt*, hurries him on, to ſhuffle and Equivocate, to ſay and Unſay, to puzzle and Confound things, and make all as Obſcure as can be, for fear

fear the Light ſhou'd break in upon him, and make ſome Diſcovery by which He may poſſibly be a *Loſer* or a Sufferer: When a Man's Mind is ſo intent upon *Mammon*, that *Honour* and *Conſcience*, and *Common Senſe*, and Every Thing muſt become *Proſtitute* to the Service! And in this Reſpect there is not a more deplorable *Captivity* than what *He* undergoes. So thought his admir'd *Horace*; and perhaps *Propheſied* of *Him*, while he was deſcribing his *Caſe*: ----

Quî melior ſervo, quî liberior ſit avarus
Non video, nam qui cupiet, metuet quoque; porro,
Qui metuens vivit, liber mihi non erit unquam.
Perdidit arma, locum virtutis deſeruit, qui
Semper in augendâ feſtinat & obruitur re.

You ſee, Sir, how he has laid about him here, in his *Sixty firſt* and *ſecond* Pages, in order to face the Reader down that *Black* is *White!* You ſee how he has beſpatter'd Others, and even his *Betters*, to make *Himſelf* look Comely, Smug, and Pretty! You ſee how difficult it is, notwithſtanding, to hide the *Deformities* of the Mind and Soul, as well as thoſe of the Body! You ſee how Ill his *Maſquerading* Habit becomes him, and what ſmall ſtead his Bad Varniſh is like to ſtand him in! ---- *Diſhoneſty* is a very Courſe and Rough Charge upon him: But how can I help it, when he is ſo ſedulous to lead People to the Diſcovery? He has been charg'd by the *Petitioners* with having *leſſen'd the Value of their Fellowſhips*: And he muſt needs go and *prove* Himſelf *Guilty*, by an *Arrogant*, *Abſurd*, and *Contradictory Defenſe*: He is not content with this: He muſt add farther Evidences of his being even yet a *Worſe* Man than We ever Repreſented him. He muſt Tyrannize and Inſult publickly over Thoſe he has defrauded

defrauded and oppreſs'd; He muſt take away their Reputation too, as well as their Money, to ſhew that He is thoroughpac'd and Uniform in the Practice and Love of Juſtice! Theſe are all ſure *Signs* of a bad *Cauſe* and a Condemning *Conſcience*. What ſhou'd a Man uſe ſo many Colours, and ſo many ſtrain'd Fallacies, ſo much *Sophiſtry*, Bouncing and Recrimination for, if his Cauſe were ſound, and wou'd bear the Scrutiny? ---- All theſe Shiftings and Jugglings laid together, with ſo many plain Undeniable Matters of Fact, obvious and ſelf-evident to Every body that can but read, muſt redound mightily to His Credit and Juſtification! ---- Which way can He pretend to look People in the Face, and call Himſelf a Man of *Honour* and *Probity*? a Man of Candor, Ingenuity, or Common Manners? --- That He ſhou'd labour ſo to Stifle and Diſguize his Iniquities, and yet that they ſhou'd burſt out thus by their own proper Fury and Violence, and blaze abroad beyond all poſſibility of ſuppreſſing 'em: This I think is what *Ought* to be Matter of *Aſtoniſhment* to him. --- *Et major erit Confuſio, voluiſſe celare, cum celari nequierint.* ---

I am far from ſaying this out of any Other Commotion, than what the bare Knowledge and Conſideration of ſo many Shameful Particulars, muſt needs excite in any One that does not *abhor* Truth and Vertue, and Make his *Court* to *Deceit*, and Crafty *Oppreſſion*. I know there are thoſe who think, or at leaſt who wou'd ſeem to think it an Unanſwerable Argument in Dr. *Bentley*'s Vindication, to ſay That He is a Man much fam'd in the Commonwealth of *Learning*. They may think what they pleaſe. For my Own part, I believe I have as true a Regard for *Learning*, as thoſe perhaps, that make the greateſt Noiſe about it in Themſelves, and Other People:

But

But then I confeſs my Notion of the Matter is This. I conſider *Learning* as a Means or Inſtrument to make a Man a Serviceable Uſeful Member of a Commonwealth, that is, to make him the more capable of doing Good Offices, and promoting the Happineſs and Satisfaction of thoſe about him: If any Man's *Learning* qualifies him to do This, He is a *Valuable Man*: If any Man's *Learning* ſerves only to ſwell and puff him up, and make him carry it high above all the reſt of the World; His *Learning* is Dotage, and Folly, and Nonſenſe, and a Reproach. But, if any Man makes his *Learning* Pimp to his *Vices*; if he makes it ſubſervient to *Deſigns* that are *Injurious* or *Scandalous*; or if he thinks to make it a *Cover* or *Excuſe*, for *Unrighteous*, *Cruel*, *Oppreſſive*, or *Deceitful* Practices: Then 'tis Odious, 'tis Criminal, 'tis Deteſtable, 'tis the very higheſt of Aggravations. And I can never have any vaſt Eſteem for that Man's *Learning*, be it *Otherwiſe* never ſo Immenſe or Lofty, where Honeſty is not an Ingredient, nor *Moral Virtue* the Foundation.

But Dr. *Bentley* goes on with the *Petitioners*, here in his *Sixty Second* Page, to Another Paragraph. He purſues the ſame Scheme ſtill: And with a hard'ned *Hypocriſy*, and a great deal of affected ſcoffing Pleaſantry, makes his *Mimick Lamentations* over the College for the Loſs of *Peace and Quietneſs*. —— 'Tis like him! —— The Misfortune is never the Leſs, nor the leſs *True* for his making a *Jeſt* of it! —— By his pretending to carry it off with ſo much *Unconcernedneſs*, He wou'd have the World believe there is Nothing in it. But let that *Proud*, *Vain* Creature know, that while he *makes a Mock at* his Own *Sin*, He puts at the ſame time a very dreadful *Sarcaſm* upon Himſelf. 'Tis a plain Caſe, ſays He, by this Grief that their *Fellowſhips* were too little, and the *Bot-*

tles came ſparingly in; ſo that out of pure Compaſſion I'll ſay nothing to this Article. —— Witty Wretch! —— 'Tis a plain Caſe, by this Reflexion, that Thou art in the very *Gall of Bitterneſs*; and that *Pride, Extortion, Slander,* and *Contempt* both of *God* and *Man*, are things very Familiar to Thee, and that ſit very eaſy upon Thy Conſcience. Take heed however, of turning *Compaſſion* into Ridicule, leſt thou put thy ſelf for ever out of its reach, and ſeek it when it is not to be found. —— A ſolemn Laugh won't do the Bus'neſs; nor is *Wickedneſs* to be *atton'd* by *glorying* in it. —

Well, Sir, but what's this *Nice Conſiſtency* Our *Oracle* in *Critick* and *Propriety* has diſcover'd, between this Article of the Petition, and the Others? I ſuppoſe He means ſome very ſtaring *Inconſiſtency*. Let's enquire a little what the Matter is? —— Why it ſeems it had been ſaid before, in Another Article, "That *from 1700. the Peace of the* "*College was diſturb'd*; and again, what was ſtill "worſe, *That the Peace of the Foundation has for* "*many Years been wholly broken*: But here at laſt "we have contrary News, That all this while "*till this laſt Year, the Fellows and Members of the* "*College were in a Peaceable Diſpoſition.*" —— Well, but where is the Inconſiſtency? —— Where? Why don't you ſee it? —— I profeſs, Not I. —— Oh Dear! No? Why *that the Fellows ſhou'd be in a peaceable Diſpoſition*, or *ſhou'd have a mind to enjoy Peace, when at the ſame time, the Maſter wou'd not let 'em*: Or in other Words, *That open Acts of Hoſtility ſhou'd be carry'd on a One ſide, and not on the Other!* Why, ſure you never heard of the Doctrine of Reſiſtance; or elſe you cou'd never be ſo much to ſeek for the *Inconſiſtency* of theſe Paſſages. ——

And is this all that Dr. *Bentley* can find to carp at? —— All? And a great deal too! I'll aſſure you

you that: —— Come, come; you don't imagine how *Witty* he is in his *Remark* upon it. —— Witty! Nay, that may be. —— But, if his *Wit* be no better than his *Criticiſm*, He may e'en keep it to Himſelf, for Me. —— Well, you *ſhall* hear it, however. —— No, Pray excuſe me. —— Indeed but I won't. What? Not hear Dr. *Bentley's Remark?* That's a good one with all my Heart! I'll try that, I'm reſolv'd. His *Remark*, Sir, is this. *I hope*, ſays He, *our Learned* Phyſician *can mix his Drugs, better than his Sentences.* —— Pooh! Prithee, you make this *for* him now, I'm ſure. —— I make it, Sir? What d'ye mean by that? You may turn to his *Sixty Third* Page, and believe your *own Eyes*, if you won't believe *Me.* —— Well; I can't like it; that's in ſhort. *Firſt*, becauſe the *Criticiſm*, upon which he grounds it, is *falſe* and *fooliſh*: And then, in the *next* Place, becauſe *His* Way of Wit and *Repartee* is evidently the moſt arrant *Drug* upon Earth: No *Mixture* in the World will ever be able to make it *go down*; or at leaſt, it will never go down ſo as to *ſtay* with Any Body, that has not the *Stomach* of a Horſe or a Porter.

Here now, Sir, at length Dr. *Bentley* is arriv'd to his Dear Darling Scheme for an *Alteration* in the way of *Dividends*. This is a Scuffle of great *Value* and *Conſequence* to him; Here's *Money* to be gotten: Here he engages *Heart and Soul*: And this, with *Him*, is fighting *pro Aris & Focis*. Accordingly He ſpends no leſs than *Three and Twenty* Pages in Stating and DEMONSTRATING the *Reaſonableneſs* of his Propoſal; that is, after his uſual Manner, in perplexing and confounding things. And having rais'd a Miſt of Dark and Doubtful Intricacies, He tells you poſitively, and Dogmatically, and *Critick-like*, of a *Convincing Proof, a priori*, by which it appears He has *hit upon*

the true Scheme for the Reſtoration of the College to its Original Plan laid by the Founders; and that to the Niceneſs of a ſingle Farthing! —— *Ah! la belle choſe, que de ſcavoir quelque choſe!* —— People may talk what they will; but *'tis Something like, to know Something!* ——

I can by no means think it proper, neither is it at all Neceſſary, to follow him Step by Step, to uſe ſuch a vaſt Number of *Words*, to cite ſuch a Multitude of frivolous Inſtances and Caſes, and go ſuch a round-about way to Work to *Undeceive* the Reader, as He has done to *Deceive* him. The *Bottom* of all is merely to keep up to Himſelf *Money* and *Power*; and then after that, *more Money*, and *more Power*; and ſo on to the End of the Chapter. His *Apparent* Deſign is plainly, (make the *Beſt* on't) nothing elſe but to paſs himſelf upon the World for a Man of greater *Wiſdom*, and greater *Honeſty*, than *all that have gone before him.*

How *Juſt* his Title is to *ſuch* a ſort of Character, we have abundantly ſeen already, in Both its Branches. No Man can deſire a fuller Proof, *beforehand*, of the *Weakneſs* and *Iniquity* of any Cauſe, than to find the Patron and Defender of it *Contradicting* Himſelf, at his very Firſt Setting out. What can be more groſs and *choquing*, than to Obſerve Dr. *Bentley* throughout the *Preceding* Part of his Letter, repreſenting the *Subſcribers* as the very *Dregs* and *Scandal* of Mankind, as People that are not worthy to live upon the Face of God's Earth: And then to have him come, *afterwards*, without *Bluſhing*, and tell my Lord of *Ely*, That, if it had not been for *His Propoſal* about Dividends, and Our Petition againſt it, the *Peaceable Diſpoſition*, on Both ſides, had continu'd ſtill? Nay, to have him Own, as he does, that this very Propoſal was *peacably* agreed to by *Him*

and

and the *Seniors*, and had been concluded and eſtabliſh'd, but for Mr. *Miller*; and that *then* there had been no *Proſpect* but of Love, and Concord, and *Unanimity*?

What is this, but eſtabliſhing and *Demonſtrating* His Own *Falſhood*? What is it but declaring that if He cou'd have prevail'd for this *Scheme* of His, He ſhou'd then have had *No Crimes* to Object againſt any Members of the College? And conſequently, that either, All thoſe *filthy Characters* were *forg'd* merely to ſerve a *Turn*, by depreſſing and vilifying thoſe that Oppos'd *His Intereſt*; Or elſe, that He is *not* that *ſincere*, and *Upright Reformer* he wou'd be taken to be? —— I wou'd deſire no clearer *Evidence* againſt Him, than His Own *Words* and *Behaviour* in this *Letter* will amount to.

Then follows, at the Bottom of the *Sixty third* Page, his

Omnia præcepi, atque animo mecum ante peregi.

Which is Another flat *Contradiction* to what He ſays at the Bottom of his *Fifty third* Page. For, There, He tells my Lord of *Ely* that He *had not the leaſt Foreſight of ſuch an Audacious Attempt as Our Petition*. And yet, Here, He *confeſſes*, *when He firſt attempted this Alteration, He durſt not promiſe himſelf, conſidering the Men, to effect it amicably at home, without an Appeal to the Viſitor*.

As ſoon as we get over Leaf, we have his Ground and Reaſon for ſuſpecting He ſhou'd meet with Oppoſition: The *Governing Part*, He ſays, *to their Own petty Intereſt for a few Years, wou'd ſacrifice the publick Honour and Advantage of the Houſe for ever*. This alſo He overthrows, Contradicts, and *caſſates* in ſeveral Places before

He comes to the End of his Letter: Particularly, in his *Seventy Sixth* Page by saying, that the *Present* way of Dividends is a *Loss* to the Fellows; and in his *Eightieth*, where He produces an Order which takes Care that the present Ancient Worthies *(the Governing Part)* shou'd be *no Sufferers* by the *College*.

These are some of the Inconsistencies, the Absurdities and *Contradictions*, with which he has *embarassed* Himself and His beloved *Scheme*, upon the very *Proposal* of it. ——

But what signifies his *Contradicting* Himself?—If He can but talk of his *several* KNOWING *Men*, that have *all approv'd* it, as the greatest Benefaction he has ever done, or can do the Society; if He can but tell you how long *He* has *weigh'd* and *examin'd* his Project; what need is there of any farther *Weighing* or *Examining*!—— His depending *Flatterers* and *Parasites* are the People He calls KNOWING *Men*. A KNOWING *Man*, in *His Dialect*, signifies nothing else but a Man that will *say* just as *He says*.

Et sapit, & mecum facit, & Jove judicat æquo.

However, any Man perhaps might say, it wou'd be the greatest *Benefaction He* had ever done the *Society*; and yet not look upon it to be a *Benefaction*, for all that. And if He is not *Wise* enough to know when He is *Flatter'd*, or *Laugh'd* at, is that a Reason why every body Else must be govern'd by *His Blindness* and *Self-Conceit*?

There is nothing that so plainly and openly betrays His intolerable *Vanity*, as his perpetual *Comparing* Himself with Other People; Especially his pretending to be so much *Wiser*, and *Better*, and *Abler* than those that have *gone before* him in the *Mastership of* Trinity *College*. As here, in his

Sixty

Sixty fourth Page, He tells us this Design of his was either not *Thought* of by any Master this *Fifty* Years, or thought too *Difficult* to be compass'd. —— Perhaps it was not thought too *Difficult* to be *compass'd*, but it was judg'd too *Unreasonable*, too plainly *Unstatutable* to be seriously *Thought* of, much more to be *Prosecuted* with so much *Clamour* and *Violence*. Tho' *He*, it seems, cou'd not think of *Dying comfortably* till he had made the *Experiment*, *cost what it wou'd*. And, if He *succeeds*, as, he says, *He trusts He shall*, *Posterity* at least, I don't question, will make a *due Estimate*, What *Sort* of *Vigor*, *Resolution* and *Art* was requir'd, to raise up *Iniquity*, in so *short a time*, to so *high a Pitch*, by the *forc'd Consent* of the Sworn *Opposers*.

All this makes his Application of the passage in *Horace*, very just and full: And there seems to be more in it than, at First Reading, one wou'd be apt to imagine. And therefore having *weigh'd* and *examin'd* it, and Observing how ready He is, upon all Occasions to shew his *Good Will* to Dr. *Montagu*, and to be *Witty* upon his *Betters*; as also what a strange *Talent* and *Appetite* He has for raking *Pelf* together; I think it very proper to give the Reader a *second* View of it, and so leave it to his farther Meditation.

—— HIC *onus horret*,
Ut parvis animis & PARVO CORPORE *majus*;
HIC *subit & perfert*: *aut Virtus nomen inane est*,
Aut decus & PRETIUM *recte petit* EXPERIENS VIR.

Perhaps some of his *Young Men* that have been *brought up to Measuring of Work*, may be able to discover some hidden Beauties more than the Ge-

nerality of people are aware of. Let *Them* ſet it in its True Light, if they think it worth their while. For *my Part*, I am under no Obligation to do him ſo much Service: Neither wou'd it be decent in Me to Undertake it; becauſe I muſt, it ſeems, tho' never ſo unwillingly, confeſs, that I am none of his *Flowers*, none of his *Pretty Fellows*.

With this Application out of *Horace*, he ends his Preface or *Introduction* to what he has to *Demonſtrate*, concerning his New *Scheme* of *Dividends*. Then follows his *faithful and exact Narrative of the Progreſs of Dividends from their very beginning*. —— A moſt Admirable and Curious Work! —— From which he wou'd Remark to my Lord of *Ely*, That the *Forty four Junior Fellows have been gradually more and more Sufferers*: With a Deſign, I preſume, of pleading *Preſcription*, to carry on that *Gradual Oppreſſion* ſtill farther; and ſo to give Better, tho' He has already given Abundant Proof, That He has GOVERN'D WELL for HIMSELF.

It is the moſt Confident, Unaccountable piece of *Banter* in the World, for *Him* to think of perſuading any Body, That He is pleading all this While, for the *Rights*, the *Intereſt* and Advantage of the *Junior* Fellows; When 'tis plain, He has been *Reducing* 'em, *Squeezing* 'em, and *Preying* upon their very *Vitals*, in a manner, for theſe *Ten Years* together: When He has, in this very *Letter*, been Inſulting, Defaming, Rogueing, and caſting Dirt upon 'em, for a Company of Rakehelliſh, Sottiſh, Spendthrift, Good-for-nothing Scoundrels; merely becauſe they have Now, Nothing left out of the FIVE and TWENTY Pounds a-piece, which they have had, from the College, within the Compaſs of SEVEN Years.

'Tis for the ſake of the *Junior Fellows*, no doubt, and at their Inſtant and Importunate Deſire of an Alteration, that He Curſes, and Damns and Sinks the *Old* way of Dividends, as a *Plague* and a *Peſt*, and a *Bane* to the Society! —— 'Tis much the Fellows Themſelves ſhou'd n't have been Uneaſy, all this While, under ſuch a *Sore Viſitation*, as this *Old* way of Dividends! —— But *They*, Poor Fools! What Notion can *They* have, of their True *Intereſt* and *Advantage*? —

But One great Inſtance that *Demonſtrates* the Abſurdity of this *Old* way of Dividends, is, That "Dr. *Hutchinſon*, this laſt Year had Five Pound "*Stipend*, and Maſter *Cock*, a Senior, only Two "Pound and a Mark; and yet to the very Re- "verſe of this, Dr. *Hutchinſon* was only to have "had Twenty Five Pound *Dividend*, and Maſter "*Cock* Fifty."

Don't you perceive, Sir, now, what it was that made the *Reverend* Dr. *Hutchinſon* ſo *readily and heartily to come into Dr.* Bentley's *Meaſures*? —— Much ſuch another Reaſon as makes Dr. *Bentley* ſo Noiſy and Turbulent in the Purſuit of 'em. — Not the *Juſtice* of the Cauſe; but, as Mr. *Dean* very artfully expreſſes himſelf, ſomething *Next* to it: Something as *Good*; ſomething *Better*, in *Their* Opinion! ——

Dr. *Bentley*, Sir, I doubt, wou'd never forgive us, if we ſhou'd omit to pay our acknowledgments to him, for a pretty, clean piece of *Satire* here, in this paſſage; which he levels directly at Mr. *Cook*. —— It lies very cloſe; and conſiſts only in One peculiar Word; and that Word is, MASTER. —— MASTER *Cock*, ſays He: — and again; MASTER *Cock*. — This low, this Mobbiſh and Senſeleſs *Iteration* of MASTER, You wou'd not imagine, what a lucky Thought it is; and how it rejoices the very *Heart* of him!

And

And the Jeſt lies in this, That there is no viſible *Occaſion* for his Uſing it here, any more to Mr. *Cock*, than to Mr. *Modd*, or Mr. *Laughton*, or any Other Perſon He mentions throughout his Letter. He thinks he mortifies and expoſes Mr. *Cock* by this: Lord help his Head! —— And the *Wit* is ſo much the finer, becauſe, at the ſame time, You ſee with what an awful Reſpect He treats his good Friend, the WORTHY Dr. *Hutchinſon*, Our *College-Dean*, the Author of that Nice Epiſtle from *Leiceſterſhire!* —— The Reaſon of the Difference is very manifeſt: Dr. *Hutchinſon* has labour'd at an awkard fulſome Flouriſh in his Commendation. Whereas Mr. *Cock*, ſeems, has a Spirit *above* being a *Sycophant*.

But how does Dr. *Bentley* make out, That *the Will of the Founder is ſubverted*, and *every thing turn'd upſide down*, becauſe Dr. *Hutchinſon* has not Fifty Pounds *Dividend* as well as Mr. *Cock*? For He has his *Preeminence*, *as* Doctor, by having Five Pound *Stipend* to Mr. *Cock*'s Two Pounds and a Mark. And Mr. *Cock* has his *Preeminence*, as *Senior*, by having Fifty Pounds *Dividend* to the Dr.'s *Twenty Five*. And ſure by the *Statutes* there is a greater Regard to be had for a *Senior*, than for a mere *Doctor*, in *Trinity-College*. However, 'tis plain, this is abundantly made up to Dr. *Hutchinſon* Another way. For by his being *Doctor*, the *Youth will be induc'd to reverence* Him, as much as they do Dr. *Bentley*; when they ſee that in all *Publick Meetings*, He is not thruſt down *ad ima ſubſellia*, but ſits Perking up among the *Doctors*! An Honour, I'll aſſure you, that is at leaſt equivalent to any Common Man's Fifty Pounds a Year! Notwithſtanding *He* and his Great *Advocate* here too, by the *Known Privileges* of their ſpecial *Temper* and *Education*, and *that* in ſpight of the *Higheſt* Academical *Degree*, take daily ſuch Liberties

Liberties as both *Gravity and Prudence* diſallow, as *Common Honeſty* abhors, and *Common Senſe* diſowns, and is aſham'd of.

As to Dr. *Bentley's* long Deduction of *Arguments*, in Favour of his new Project, which He pretends to ground upon the Statutes; 'tis of a Piece with the *Reſt* of his Book; very Concluſive, very Modeſt, very Ingenious, and very Honeſt! —— But it has been ſo well, and ſo fully diſcuſs'd by Thoſe Gentlemen that have already appear'd againſt Dr. *Bentley* upon this Occaſion, that I cannot think it proper to trouble the World with my Own Particular Examinations of it, and the numerous Objections that lie fairly againſt it. The *Subject* it ſelf is *Dry*, and Out of the *Way* of moſt People's *Curioſity*; and by no means ſuch as can tempt the Reader to liſten to *every* thing that might be ſaid upon it. For theſe Reaſons I ſhall *drop* a great deal of what I once intended to have obſerv'd to You, concerning this Matter: As I have alſo omitted ſeveral Things relating to Other Points in Dr. *Bentley's* Letter; becauſe it ſeems to me to be a Vanity I wou'd not willingly be guilty of, to enter upon ſuch Things, as I cannot enlarge upon without either Tranſcribing from Other Men, or elſe, putting 'em into a much Meaner Form than what they are already poſſeſs'd of.

Something however ſhall be ſaid upon this Head; it ſha'n't be very much, before I take my leave of Our Illuſtrious Author. And ſince he pretends, here alſo, to his old Fulneſs of *Demonſtration*; I will, in the *firſt* Place, ſhew him a Demonſtration, why *His* Demonſtration can never be allow'd of: And then, with as much Expedition as I can, I ſhall conſider the *Vanity* of his *Peroration*, and all thoſe *Perſuaſive Topics* He has muſter'd up, to confirm what no body alive

cou'd

cou'd possibly *withstand*; upon supposition that His *Demonstration* had been a *True* one.

His *Demonstration* You have in his *seventieth* Page. And as soon as the great Operation is over, we are got into his *seventy first* Page. Where He gives this Noble, Succinct and Satisfactory Account of what He has Atchiev'd. "My "Lord, says He, I must own my self quite to "seek for Demonstration, if this will not pass "for One. 'Tis a convincing Proof to me *à "priori*, that I have lit upon the true Scheme for "the Restoration of the College to its Original "Plan laid by the Founders." And not only so, but He *Demonstrates* likewise, that this Scheme of his, is very much for the *Interest* of the *Junior Fellows*.

In Answer to all this, I desire I may have leave to be very Positive, and I do accordingly take upon me to be very Positive, that I have a Convincing Proof, and *à priori* too, That His *Scheme* is either *Partial*, *Unstatutable*, and *Unjust*; Or else, absolutely, upon his Own Principles, *Impracticable*.

The *Plan* He professes to go upon, is that of the several Proportions allotted by the *Founders* in *Stipends* for Every Member and Servant of the College Respectively. Wherefore, if Dr. *Bentley*'s Scheme must be extended *no farther* than He has mention'd in his *Proposal*, Then it is manifestly *Partial*, *Unstatutable*, and *Unjust*: Because, (including Officers and Servants) There are more than *Two Thirds* of the College, All of 'em Parties alike concern'd, All of 'em as much included in the *Founders Original Plan*, as the *Master* and the *Fellows*, can possibly be, of whom, in his *New Scheme*, He takes no manner of Notice, neither makes any Provision for 'em in the least.

O'

O't' Other Side; If Dr. *Bentley's* Scheme muſt be extended and carried on quite through the whole Number contain'd in the *Founder's Original Plan*, Then it is evidently, according to His Own Principles, *Impracticable*. Becauſe, by *His* Rule of *Multiplication*, every Dividend wou'd take up a matter of *Sixteen Hundred Pounds* above the Sum He propoſes to have, or that can poſſibly be Yearly Divided. Which wou'd reduce a Fellowſhip to about Four Pounds *Dividend* One Year with another, and perhaps to leſs: Conſequently it can't be for the *Intereſt* of the Fellows, nor for the Encouragement of *Degrees*, to depart from the *Old* Method of Dividends, as He, in his *Demonſtration*, lays down that it is.

This, I humbly conceive, is Short and Plain. So plain, that I appeal to any Reader, Whether I have not at leaſt as good a Pretence to *gratulate the Occaſion of his Letter*, that has *given me the Opportunity to leave this Demonſtration* of mine *to Poſterity*; as He has to gratulate the Occaſion of *Our Complaint*, that has given *Him* Opportunity to leave *His Worthy Scheme*, for the Uſe and Benefit of future Generations? *

In ſhort, I take the Abſurdity of His Scheme to be ſo very obvious, plain, and evident, that I think verily, in the Mind I'm in, No Bribe, no Rack, no Tyrant, *Non vultus Inſultantis Tyranni*, ſhall ever compel me to *Subſcribe* to it, for a *Reaſonable* thing. He may talk as loud, and as long as He pleaſes; He may *Demonſtrate*, and

* *See Dr. B——'s Letter*, p. 64.

look

look big, and ſtorm, and puff and ſwell till he's a-weary; 'tis all One: my Anſwer will infallibly be,

Non perſuadebis, etiamſi Te ruperis.

I don't produce this Argument as any new Diſcovery of my Own; neither do I pretend to be the Firſt that diſcover'd the UNKNOWN USE of it. It has been taken Notice of, and urg'd already by thoſe that have written upon the Occaſion. I only perform the Task of an *Epitomiſer*, by contracting it into a Narrow Compaſs, for the Uſe of thoſe that deſire to be inform'd with little or no Trouble.

I know it has been ſaid by Some, That Dr. *Bentley* does not propoſe this *Scheme*, for the *raiſing the Stipends*; but only, ſince Dividends muſt be made in *ſome* Proportion, Why not in the Proportion of *Stipends*?

This *Salvo* plainly acknowledges the *Iniquity* of Dr. *Bentley*'s Project, upon Suppoſition the *Stipends* ſhou'd be increas'd to the *Fellows* only, and not to all the *Other* Members. And accordingly whoever urges any ſuch *Salvo*, does expreſly *Contradict* Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter, where He ſays, as plainly as Words can ſpeak; That He affirms * it to be the *only juſt Method*, conformable to the *Founder's Inſtitution*, and to the *State of the College for the firſt Hundred Years*: being really the *Reſtoration of the Original Stipends to their Primitive Va-*

* *See Dr.* B——'s *Letter*, p. 69.

lue;

lue: And then *Demonſtrates* † That He has lit upon the true Scheme for the *Reſtoration of the College to its Original Plan laid by the Founders.* † Page 71.

For, when Dr. *Bentley* ſpeaks of the *Founder's Inſtitution*, and the *State of the College*; I ſuppoſe He ſpeaks in Conformity to *Common Senſe and Language*, and means the *Whole* Inſtitution, and the *Whole* State of the College; I ſuppoſe he means *All* the *Original Stipends*, I ſuppoſe He means the *Whole Original Plan* laid by the *Founders*. According to which, there is no Room, nor any Pretence in the World, for a *Partial Diſtribution.*

And if this be not really his Meaning, He can have nothing to ſay for Himſelf: And why ſhou'd he make ſuch a Noiſe and Uproar, *all the Nation over*, againſt the *Old Method*, as Arbitrary and Unſtatutable, when, if this be not his meaning, His *New Method* is as Arbitrary and Unſtatutable as *that?*

So that He *actually means and muſt mean*, an *Increaſe of Stipends.* And conſequently His *Scheme*, as I have already *Demonſtrated*, is a vile and miſerable *Scheme*; is either *Partial*, *Unſtatutable* and *Unjuſt*; or elſe abſolutely, upon his Own Principles, *Impracticable.*

Mr. *Cotes*, our *Aſtronomy Profeſſor*, is a Man that can diſtinguiſh a *Demonſtration* from an *Abſurdity*, at leaſt as well as Dr. *Bentley:* He has been much oblig'd to Dr. *Bentley*; and wou'd do as much to gratify and comply with him, as any Man whatever. This Scheme of Dr. *Bentley's*, about *Dividends*, and an *Honourable Compoſition* for Himſelf, has

has been communicated to Mr. *Cotes* for his Approbation, all along, from the very Beginning. Dr. *Bently* has teiz'd, and wearied him out of his Life almoſt, to give a Certificate, that *His Scheme* was a *Reaſonable* One. He has drawn up ſeveral Papers, in ſeveral Forms; that if One wou'd not go down, Another might. ——— No: 'Twas all to no purpoſe. ——— Well; will you multiply *This* Sum by *That*; and give me your Hand to the *Product* of the Operation? ——— As to a Matter of *Fact*, Sir, I will: But that the *Propoſal*, You ground upon it, is a *Reaſonable* one, I never will. ——— To be reveng'd of Mr. *Cotes* for his Stubbornneſs, He has lugg'd him into his *Book*, to be an Idle *Witneſs* to a Silly *Story*, about His reading ſome Papers of Dr. *Ayloff*'s: And then, at *laſt*, has clapp'd Him down, in his *Table of Fame*, as one that is entirely in the ſame Sentiments and Deſigns with Himſelf! ———

The Abſurdity of Dr. *Bentley*'s Scheme is ſo viſible and manifeſt, that it is impoſſible He ſhou'd not be *Conſcious* of it. However, ſuppoſing it to be never ſo much for the *Intereſt* of the *Fellows*, yet ſince They deſire to be excus'd, and are very well contented with what they have, Why muſt He force and ram it down their Throats, in ſpight of their Teeth; not only *Without*, but abſolutely *Againſt* their Conſent; contrary to all *Reaſon*, both *Natural* and *Civil*? *

* Naturalis & Civilis ratio ſuadet, alienam conditionem meliorem quidem, etiam ignorantis & inviti, nos facere poſſe, deteriorem non poſſe. Quod verum eſt de invito, hoc eſt, de eo qui non voluit, ſecus de invito qui noluit aut repugnat, *Dig.* 3. 5. 39.

No

No Man was ever yet ſo Zealous, and ſo Studious of the *Intereſt* of *Other* People, and ſo much more ſtirring to promote it, than the Parties themſelves concern'd; but there was always a great deal of *Self* at the *Bottom*. This makes Dr. *Bentley's* Buſtling ſo, upon this Occaſion, very Suſpicious. He that can rail at the Fellows for being ſo extravagant as to ſpend FIVE AND TWENTY Pounds in SEVEN Years; when, at the ſame time, He is contending, with all his Might, for a Thouſand, or Fifteen Hundred Pound a Year; is a very *likely* Man to have nothing but the *Intereſt* of the *Fellows* at heart!

What He is driving at, is, in ſhort, this. He wou'd have a matter of ſeven Hundred pounds a Year for Himſelf, in hard Money, conſtant, ſeparate, and independent from all the Reſt. And He wou'd have about *Three Hundred* pounds beſides, as a Sharer with Us, in *Dividends*. Then He wou'd have *Dividends* go by *Academical Degrees*; becauſe, He is a Man of a *Projecting* Head; and, as being *Maſter*, He can ſtop or hinder any Man from taking his *Degrees*, if he *deceive the Maſter's Expectation*. —— Now then, ſuppoſe He has a mind to raiſe his Lodgings a Story higher: Or to New-build half the College. —— No body that Knows *Him*, can think Either of theſe a groundleſs Suppoſition. —— Well; why by means of his *Seven Hundred Pounds* a Year, and his *Other Preferments*, He can make a tolerable Shift to *ſubſiſt*, without *Dividends*, for the ſake of Carrying on his *Project*. Shall the Fellows oppoſe him in this? Or ſhall they not? —— If they *do not*; They loſe their *Dividends*, and want *Neceſſaries*: If they *do*, They may likewiſe loſe their *Dividends*; for it ſeems, without *He* pleaſes, that

is, without *He* is *pleas'd*, we can have no ſuch thing as any *Dividend*! Or, the beſt of our Caſe will be, that He will ſtop us from *Degrees*, and ſo we ſha'n't be capable of enjoying the Benefit of his New *Academical* Scheme! —— And this is what *He* means in his *Seventy Firſt* Page, by ſaying it is really *Tanti*, worthy the *Trouble* of the *Alteration*. —— Oh, Yes: Without queſtion it muſt be *Tanti*, for *Him* to be *mancipiis dives*, a ſort of a *Cappadocian* King, with a Train of Slaves at his Heels, that ſhall do and ſuffer juſt what he has a mind to Impoſe! ——

The *Tyrannical* Deſign of This *Scheme* is ſo flaming and apparent, that, in the Name of the *whole College*, in the Name of all that's *Juſt*, and *Fair*, and *Reaſonable*, I deſire it may never take place. Let the *Maſter* have what is really his Due; and welcome. And if any *Alteration* be made, yet let *Us* know at leaſt what we may call our *Own*: Let not *Him* have any Power to *ſtop* Dividends when they may be had; or to apply 'em to what Uſes he pleaſes, for his own Maggets. Let him uſe as much Diſcipline as he pleaſes: But let not *Him* be any ways concern'd in the Fingering of *Our* Money; as *We* don't deſire to meddle with *His*. There is no Intricacy, no *Error*, no *Puzzle*, no Iniquity, in any of *This*, as there is in all *His Propoſal*; This has been the way, till He came, practis'd; This, I'm ſure, is the only certain way to make us all *Eaſy*, and *Quiet*, to make Us capable of *ſtudying* with any *ſatisfaction*, and to make the *College flouriſh for ever*. And I deſire that what He ſays of the *Seniors*, may be applied, as it may with great Reaſon, to *Him*; For 'tis plain, when once *He* gets more than he *ſhou'd*; the next Step is always to

get

get as much as he *Can*: And *Every* body thinks He has *more* already than He *ought* to have.

As for what He ſays of Dr. *Ayloffe*, in his *ſeventy ſecond* Page, tho' He has us'd that *Gentleman* at an intolerable rate, yet I ſhall paſs it by, becauſe it is all fully, clearly and ſubſtantially refuted, by Mr. *Miller*, in leſs than the Compaſs of One ſhort Paragraph.*

Now, Sir, to look a little, briefly, into his *Motives*, by which he recommends his foregoing *Scheme* and *Demonſtration* to the World.

The *Firſt*, is in his *ſeventy third* Page; and it is drawn from ſome Doſes of *Bourdeaux* and *Carcavella*, adminiſter'd *gratis*, it ſeems, by Mr. *Miller*, as College *Phyſician*. The Story is abſolutely Falſe: But He, having heard of ſuch Names as *Bourdeaux* and *Carcavella*, was reſolv'd He'd find ſome Occaſion to bring 'em in, and ſo *Demonſtrate* Himſelf to be a *fine Gentleman*. The *Argument* proceeds in this Manner. —— *Bourdeaux* and *Carcavella* give a certain Turn to the Animal Spirits: *Therefore* My *Scheme* is a good *Scheme*; and it is certainly *Tanti*, *worthy the Trouble, to introduce it, and extinguiſh the preſent Practice that has now obtain'd above fifty Years!*

The *next Motive* is taken from Dr. *Metcalf* of St. *John*'s; who, in the Year 1645, *was invited to take the Vice-Maſterſhip of Our College*: As we are inſtructed in the *ſame* Page.

* *See* Mr. Miller's *Remarks*, p. 150.

Another we have, at the Bottom of the *ſeventy fourth* Page: For there we find it plainly written, That upon the King's Reſtoration the *Returning Cavaliers thought their Loyalty merited a Diſtinction!* ——

Another in the *Seventy fifth*, where the Author has *Demonſtrated*, that, by *His Scheme, a man commonly quits his Fellowſhip, by that time it comes to be* 30 l. *a Year*, and worth his keeping.

Another, in the *ſame* Page, is drawn, (by means of the *College Regiſter*) from the ſeveral *Stages* of the *Academical* Life, *Arithmetically* conſider'd. For, by the Unerring Rule of *Addition*, if You *add Thirty three to Twenty ſix, the common Age of Maſter of Arts ſtanding, the Product is Fifty nine!* ——

As ſoon as I had tranſcrib'd this laſt *Argument*, I found I was e'en dropping a-ſleep, very fairly, over my Paper. This occaſion'd me to retire, and take a ſhort Nap: during which, I cou'd nothing but dream of *Demonſtrations*. And there, methought, did I ſee a vaſt Storm of *Demonſtrations*, come powdering down; and Dr. *Bentley* ſtanding in the midſt of all the Shower, was very diligent in gathering up theſe *Demonſtrations*, that fell about him in the likeneſs of Hailſtones: But before He cou'd get Home with his Loading, they were all melted in his Pockets, and He Himſelf dropping Wet, and in the moſt poor, ſhivering, miſerable Condition, that ever Man was.

Upon this, I began to awake; and, ſhaking off the *drowſy Torpor*, I ſat my ſelf down, once more, to Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter.

I dare

I dare not Tranſcribe any more of his *Motives* and *Arguments*; for fear it ſhou'd throw me into a *Lethargy*. Beſides, You have had all the Principal ones already. Let it ſuffice therefore to aſſure You, that they *all* tend *alike* to inforce the ſame *Concluſion*: And You may depend upon it, That His *Scheme* is an admirable *Scheme*; and that it is really *Tanti, worthy the Trouble to introduce it, and extinguiſh the preſent Practice of Dividends that has now obtain'd above Fifty Years!*

So that I ſhall now, in the next place, only take notice here and there of ſome *Particularities*; and, perhaps, tell You a ſhort Story or Two, and have done.

In the Beginning of the *ſeventy ſixth* page, I meet with a very ſtrange and wonderful *Diſcovery*, concerning the *Old Method* of *Dividends*: and the *Diſcovery* is, That People, under *That* Scheme, are *Mortal* and *Moveable*. For ſo much I am given to underſtand, by theſe Words; "a ſlow Reverſion, "that has a double Uncertainty, *not only of Life*, "but of *Continuance in the College*." —— Which may ſeem to imply Two very Remarkable things. Firſt, that *Continuance* in the College, is of greater Value than *Life* it ſelf: and then, That a man may Continue in the College, as well after He has departed this Life, as he cou'd before.

Again, Sir; In the very next Paragraph of the ſame Page, Dr. *Bentley* is ſpeaking how the *Seniors*, for theſe many Years, *have all died in their Harneſs*; without being either Married or Preferr'd. But, becauſe 'tis good to be Cautious, and to obviate miſconſtructions; He ſays, he wou'd

have you take him right: He *ſpeaks of thoſe already dead!* —— And then Another thing Obſervable is, that it is *No Preferment*, for a *Fellow* to be remov'd to the *Maſterſhip*; To *Seven Hundred pounds a Year*, from *Five and Twenty pounds* in *Seven Years*. —— For we read, That not One of 'em ever quitted his *Fellowſhip*, either for *Preferment*, or Marriage, or the *Maſterſhip!* ——

Then, towards the Bottom of the Page, We have a Point of the moſt Abſtruſe Contingency, *known* and *acknowledg'd*, determin'd and *Demonſtrated*, with all the eaſe in the World: *viz.* That had not Dr. *Bentley* been made Maſter of *Trinity*-College, the *whole Society*, at this day, had been *mere Maſters of Arts*, except Dr. *Stubb!* - - - How many Sheets of Paper d' ye think it might take up an Ord'nary *Mathematician*, to work this *Demonſtration* Algebraically? ——

It is plain, ſays Dr. *Bentley* in the Beginning of the *next* page, It was the *will of the Founders*, that Academical Degrees ſhou'd be encourag'd in the Society. —— And who ever *deny'd* it to be *the Founders Will?* Or who dares *deny*, that ſuch *Degrees* are and have been encourag'd, and the *Founders* Will obſerv'd, as far as is *Reaſonable?*

And it is as plain too, ſays Dr. *Bentley*, That *He* knows very little of *Human Nature*, that can differ from *Me* in Opinion; or think that the *Honour* of the *College* can be ſupported, without *Academical Degrees*. - - - - As if every body that's againſt *His* wild *Scheme*, muſt therefore be *againſt* Academical *Degrees!* - - - He's a Perſon of wonderful *Humanity*; That muſt be ſaid for him! —— I have no manner of Spleen againſt the *Academi-*

cal Degrees; and yet I differ from Him in my Notions of the *Honour* of the College. HE makes it conſiſt altogether, in the *Reverence* and *Reſpect* which the *Youth* will be induc'd to pay to Thoſe, whom they ſee ſitting in the *Uppermoſt Seats at Synagogues*, and the *Chief places* in all *Publick Meetings*. —— I think it may as well conſiſt in the *Piety*, the *Learning*, the *Gravity*, the *Prudence*, the *Modeſty*, *Moderation*, and *Good Breeding*, of the Members; and the *Character* and *Eſteem*, which theſe Qualifications will procure for 'em, abroad in the World. —— I hope He is in readineſs, however, to give an Account, what He *means* by thoſe *ſcandalous Liberties*, which, He ſays, are ſo notoriouſly *taken*, and that *daily*, *by the Main Body of the Univerſity*, the *Maſters of Arts*: For I can tell him He will be call'd upon for it; and that, perhaps, in a more ſolemn way than He is aware of. Is not the Degree of a *Maſter of Arts* an *Academical Degree*; and therefore as much, by the *Will of the Founders*, to be *encourag'd* in a Society, as any of the reſt? Is not there a *Reſpect*, enjoin'd by *Statute*, to be paid to *that Degree*? Is not a *Maſter of Arts*, as ſuch, capable of the *Higheſt Office* in the *Univerſity*; and, generally ſpeaking, as well qualify'd for any Buſineſs as any other Man, of any other Degree? Are not there many more *Maſters of Arts* in the World, that are more Eſteem'd, and more Acceptable whereever they come, than many a man that appears in a *Scarlet Gown* upon a *Feſtival*? ——I have no *Contempts*, abſolutely, for *Any Degree*: But this I will venture to predict, That ſo long as HE continues to be number'd among the *Doctors*, That of a *Maſter of Arts* will *not* be reckon'd the *moſt Contemptible Degree* in the Univerſity. — And *His* being a *Doctor*, will probably be a greater Obſtruction and *Diſ-*

couragement to people in taking *That Degree*, than any *Encouragement* He can propoſe, will ever be able to countervail.

No worſe thing, ſays He, need be ſaid againſt this *Dividend*, than that we owe to it moſt of our preſent *Seniors*.—— O Dear: Yes; I can tell him what may be ſaid *much worſe* againſt it; tho' I don't know indeed, whether there be any great *Need* of ſaying it; and that is, That we *owe to it*, in a great meaſure, this Infamous, this Beaſtly, Scurrilous, Dirty *Letter* of *His*.

All that He ſays here, in his *Seventy Eighth* and *Ninth* Pages, about the *Dignity* and *Influence* of *Superior* Degrees; together with the *Envy* and *Emulation* of *Other Colleges*, that *malign* and *obſtruct* Him in this Affair;* but above all, the Deep and Rational *Solo* He has compos'd, for a *New Elected Fellow* to ſing over to himſelf: is fit for nothing, but to be hooted and laught at, by every Body that reads it. 'Tis ſo Mean, ſo Childiſh, ſo Impertinent, —— that it wou'd make any one alive Sick, to hear a grave ſtately Man, that writes himſelf *Doctor*, talk at ſuch a pitiful rate. It is altogether ſuperfluous, to *examine* and *refute* it; for it *refutes* it ſelf; there is nothing remains to be done, but to ſee it well *exploded*, and *renounc'd* by Him: * which He muſt needs do, if ever he recovers his Senſes again. For what man upon Earth has derided, and run down the Notion and Character of a *Univerſity Doctor*, ſo much as He has done, formerly, when it ſerv'd his Turn?

* *See Dr. Bentley's Letter, p. 72.*

How-

However, as He has order'd the Matter, there is this Conveniency in what He says Here; That it will be of great Use, if it be rightly and seasonably, and *out of Hand*, as He says, apply'd to *Him.* —— 'Tis a very dangerous sort of Constitution, He thinks, where *Character* procures nothing, nor *Infamy* loses: Where the *vilest Wretch*, that is not expell'd, has *equal Title to all things with the very Best of the Society.* —— I think so too. —— Therefore I move, that due Enquiry be made, with regard to Dr. *Bentley*, Whether He has not given *Offence* to his *Governors*, by a *negligent* or perverse *Discharge of his Office*? Whether He has made a *Progress* in his *Studies*, answerable to their *Beginnings*? —— That his *Manners* too, as well as his *Learning*, may pass the *Probation*: And then I don't know but He may be as likely a Man to sit down with *Loss* and *Contempt*, as any of his Neighbours.

Then, at the Bottom here of his *Seventy Ninth* page, He offers to lay down for an *Axiom*, what is only a ridiculous, absurd, Pedantical Imagination of his Own: And talks of a *Doctor's* Degree, as if it were a perfect *Charm*, or *Magical Inchantment.* "Such Persons, says He, by a Re-"straint from their very Title, if they had no "other Worth, wou'd not go such lengths in "Debauchery and Scandal, as some do." Why must He furnish the World with an *Instance* to the *Contrary*, then? For is not *He* a *Doctor*, an *Archdeacon*, and *Master* of *Trinity*? and yet, don't we see, That, for *want of Other Worth*, He is not Restrain'd by All his *Titles* from behaving himself as Absurdly and Indecently, as 'tis possible; and that, sometimes, before the *Heads* of the *Univer-*

sity,

ſity, and when He is every way ſurrounded with *Doctors*. *He* is not *Reſtrain'd* by his *Titles*, from aſſuming, even in this very *Letter*, to a *Right Reverend Prelate*, ſeveral moſt abominable *Falſhoods*, and from expreſſing himſelf, throughout the whole Piece, with a moſt ſupercilious and diſdainful Inſolence, and a moſt *Unchriſtian* Bitterneſs of Temper! When yet a very moderate Share of *Worth* wou'd have Reſtrain'd a man, that had none of *His Reſtraining Titles*, from going *ſuch Lengths in Scandal*, in Pride, Vain Glory, and Hypocriſy, in Envy, Hatred, and Malice, and all Uncharitableneſs.

He ſays, in his *Eightieth* page, That the "*ſmall* "Share *Trinity*-College has had in the *Dignities* of "the *Church*, ever ſince the *Reſtoration*, is to be "attributed chiefly to the Ill Influence of the "Preſent Dividend." Upon as good Ground, if his *Own Scheme* takes place, I ſuppoſe All the Future ſucceſs of the *Engliſh Arms* Abroad, muſt be attributed to the *Good Influence* of *His* wonderful *Scheme!* And 'tis very Unaccountable, how my *Lord Duke of Marlborough*, cou'd gain ſo many *Victories* as he has done, over the *French*, notwithſtanding the *Ill Influence* of the *Preſent Dividend!*——

But farther; We read, in the ſame Page, That, if *His* Noble *Scheme* goes forward, "It will then "be difficult for the Maſter to keep up a Preemi-"nence above the Seniority. —— It will THEN be difficult! As if HE did not find it difficult enough NOW! ——

The Remaining *Five or Six* Pages, are taken up, for the greateſt Part, in diſcourſing briefly to My Lord of *Ely*, about what concerns *Himſelf*; his

his Honourable *Compoſition*; *Seven Hundred Pound a Year*, conſtant and clear Money, beſides Other Profits and a Share in *Dividends*! —— *This* is that Part of the *Scheme*, which He has *reſolv'd*, *by God's Aſſiſtance*, never to relinquiſh, *coſt what it will*. And I am very ſure, ſhou'd My Lord of *Ely*, or a *Higher* Authority, comply with him ſo far, as to eſtabliſh *All* the *Other* Part of His Propoſal; which, He ſays, is ſo *Eſſential* to the *Honour*, and *Proſperity*, and *Flouriſhing* of the College *for ever*; and for which He pretends to be ſo mightily concern'd: I ſay ſhou'd all this be granted and ſettled, according to His Own Directions, without allowing *Him*, at the ſame time, his *Seven Hundred Pounds a Year*, independent, and certain, together with an Abſolute *Negative* Authority over *Us* in *Dividends*; ſhou'd his Power be clip'd and limited in this Particular, and WE not left wholly at *His Mercy*, to be *Starv'd* into a *Compliance* with all His *Extravagant* Deſigns: Shou'd this be the Caſe, and theſe the Conditions of the Settlement; I am very ſure He wou'd *ſacrifice*, what He calls the *Honour and Advantage of the Houſe for ever*, to his Own private *Intereſt for a few Years*, rather than ſubmit: I am very ſure he wou'd either reject the Offer, with Indignation and Diſdain; or if He cou'd not do that, He wou'd at leaſt repine and murmur at the *Determination* of his *Judges*, He wou'd think his great *Merit* not ſufficiently conſider'd and exalted, He wou'd think *nothing* had been done as it *ſhou'd* be.

Hic Pietatis honos? ſic nos in ſceptra reponis?

In his *Eighty Third page*, He ſpeaks of ſome *Abuſive Sayings*, upon Each of the Former Maſters, *which are to this Day convey'd down by Tradition.*

Theſe,

These, he says, are such as are not fit to be mention'd in this Well-bred *Letter* of His.—— If He has any such *Abusive Sayings* to produce, His *Letter* was certainly the fittest place in the World to mention 'em in; unless he thinks it Possible, even for *Him*, to write any thing more Scurrilous and *Abusive*, than what he has Here written.

In the *Next* page, He labours all he can to seem in pain, afraid, and Conscious that He must needs have drawn upon Himself a grievous *Cry*, for the *Expenses of the Lodge*, upon account of his having *liv'd so much more Hospitably* and *Honourably* than Other Masters. ——— 'Tis very certain, the Expenses of his Lodge have been highly *Exorbitant*: ——— of which His *Hospitable* and *Honourable way of living*, must undoubtedly have been the Cause! May it not rather be said, upon this Occasion ——— *O Domus antiqua, heu, quam dispari dominare domino!* ——— Which, in *Tully*'s Opinion, is a very grievous and shameful Imputation?

But, in this page also, He reckons himself sure, That an Allowance to Him of *Seven Hundred* Pounds a Year, for the Expenses of His Lodge; besides Other Profits, is the *greatest Blessing now wanting to the Society, next to that of Dividends according to Degrees.* ——— 'Tis true, the Blessing of *Sash-Windows* and *Marble Chimney-pieces*, we have already; I wou'd say, Dr. *Bentley* has: And yet I'll undertake to point out *something* that wou'd be a greater *Blessing* to the *Society*, and is much more *wanted* than *Either* of those great Blessings: — And that is, a *Good*, a *Pious*, and an *Upright Master*.

Before

Before He concludes, he has ſomething to ſay for Himſelf with relation to his having had *Three Young Noblemen* committed to his *Care*, as He calls it. And here, now, he thinks He comes off with *flying Colours*. For they wou'd not have come to the *Univerſity*, but upon Condition they ſhou'd diet and lodge with *Him*, at the rate of *Two Hundred* pounds a year a-piece: And even *This* was ſo *low* a rate, that, I remember He ſaid, He wou'd not have been *troubled with 'em*, but that there was ne'er a Man in the College fit to be truſted with their Education. I ſuppoſe He had been, before-hand, in Proſpect of *Six Hundred* Pounds a Year, Defaming and running down the *Univerſity*, and magnifying and crying up *Himſelf* as much as he cou'd, for the *only* Man of *Senſe* and *Good Breeding* that cou'd poſſibly be found. And it ſeems thoſe *Noblemen* did not *Know* either *Him*, or the *Univerſity*, ſo well *then*, as they have done *ſince*. For they have all deſerted *Him*, to live and converſe among the *Fellows*. *Six Hundred* Pound a Year is fled from him at once: And that makes a Compoſition of *Seven Hundred* Pound a Year from the College to the *Maſter*, to be the greateſt *Bleſſing* now wanting to the *Society*!

But, which is a little wonderful, Theſe *Young Noblemen*, notwithſtanding their being parted from Dr. *Bentley*, are ſtill *Living*; and in a very flouriſhing State both of *Mind* and *Body*. The ingenious and learned, The *Right Honourable* the Earl of *KINGSTON*, is the ſame learned and ingenious Perſon to this day, that He was under Dr. *Bentley*'s Roof: I meet with no Complaints That his *Parts* or his *Learning* are impair'd, or his *Morals* tainted, or his *Growth* ſtunted, in the leaſt;

but

but rather to the Contrary of all theſe: And the ſame, by what I can hear, is True, in Proportion, of the Reſt of them too.

However, Dr. *Bentley* ſays that in all the Seven Years before, among all the *Slanders* the *Miſrepreſenters* had *invented*, they had never once aſpers'd him with *Covetouſneſs*: And a very good Reaſon why; becauſe, *That* you'd have been *no* Slander, *no* Miſrepreſentation, *no* Invention; but plain obvious matter of *Fact*.

And to make it appear that it *cou'd not* be out of a Principle of *Covetouſneſs*, that He requir'd the *College* to pay for thoſe very *Loaves*, for which, among Other things, He was allow'd *Six Hundred* pound a Year from his *Noblemen*; He tells You what Information he had receiv'd from ſome KNOWING Fellows. He underſtood by Them, that Biſhop *Pearſon* had a *Nobleman* with him in his Lodge, for ſome Years: This is all the Information He pretends to have had. He does not care for That; He'll *Demonſtrate*, from hence, that there cou'd be Nothing of *Covetouſneſs*, in charging thoſe very *Loaves* to the College Account, which *He* was certainly *enabled* and *ſuppos'd* to pay for, out of the *Six Hundred* Pound a Year allow'd him by thoſe Perſons of Quality *for* their Lodging and *Diet*! — Did his KNOWING Men inform him, Who That *Nobleman* was; and whether He *dieted* in the *Lodge* or no? ——— If They did not, I can ſatisfy Him and the Reader, that That *Nobleman* was the *Right Honourable* the preſent Earl of *Berkeley*, and that He did not Diet in the *Lodge* but in the *Hall*. And then, let Dr. *Bentley* ſhew, how that Caſe comes to be pertinent to what He applies it to.

But

But here, now, follows as noble a Diſcovery as has been made perhaps ſince the days of *Euclid*. —— Three to ſtay one Year, is no more than one to ſtay three. —— Let me conſider a little. —— Thrice One, is Three. —— Ay; now I have it; —— Thrice One, is Three. —— And Once Three, is Three. —— Therefore, Thrice One, is as much as Once Three. And Three to ſtay One Year, is as One to ſtay Three. —— *Cela eſt vray; Vive la Science!*

Again; That Year the Three ſtaid with him, the Price of Corn was ſo exceſſively low, that the whole additional Expenſe came much ſhort of Twenty pounds. *Therefore*, it cou'd not poſſibly be *Coveteouſneſs* in *Him*, to make the *College* pay for that additional Expenſe, which was ſuppos'd to be payable by *Him*, out of his *Six Hundred* Pounds a Year, allow'd him for that purpoſe! ——

Again; He has invented a fine New *Ballance*. For, *that* Year, He made *Saſh Windows*, which alone amounted to a greater Sum! —— I intend, with His good leave, to make Uſe of this Excellent *Ballance* for the Future; and whenever the *Steward* brings me in a *Bill*, I ſhall deſire him to go about his Buſ'neſs, for I have made a *Saſh Window*, or at leaſt I have *laid out Money* upon my Chamber, which *amounts to a greater Sum!*

Well, but again; *That* year, (ſure this THAT year was a *prodigious* year!) *That* year *He* gave Twice as much to the *Chappel* as His *Predeceſſors* did to the *Library*. Ay; this THAT year, he had *Six Hundred* Pounds *Extraordinary* coming in: So vaſt an *Affluence*, that He thought it wou'd never be

be Day with him; Or else his *Two Hundred* Pounds to the *Chappel* had never made its appearance *There*. However, because He is again upon his vile *Comparisons*, I think fit to Observe, in this place, that whatever *Contribution* any Man procures by his *Own Interest*, is usually look'd upon as his *Own Benefaction*. And in this respect, his *Predecessors* did give *Twice*, nay *Ten*, nay *Twenty* times as much to the *Library*, as ever He has given or will give to the *Chappel*, or to any *Other* Use, while his Eyes are open. And had any of *Them* had such a fortunate year, as THAT year was to *Him*, probably they had given *Twice* as much to the *Library* out of their *Own* Pockets, as what *He* gave to the *Chappel* out of *His*.

That year also my Lord *KINGSTON* gave a Hundred pound to the *Chappel*. ——'Tis very True! And We pay our Thanks to my Lord *Kingston* for it; not to Dr. *Bentley*, who wou'd arrogate every thing to Himself. For, I cannot but think, my Lord *Kingston*, having Once been of the College, wou'd have contributed with the same Generosity, tho' Dr. *Bentley* had been in his Grave. Dr. *Bentley* wou'd make my *Lord* the Compliment to insinuate that all the many good Qualities his Lordship has, must be ascrib'd to *Him*: And He wou'd make *Us* the Compliment to insinuate that every Act of Kindness and Munificence that my *Lord* expresses towards the *Society*, is excited in his Lordship purely by what he discovers and admires in *Him*: Neither of which I can possibly admit. For my Lord *Kingston* is known to be a Person of as Many, as Various, and as Excellent Accomplishments, as any One *alive* perhaps of *His* Age; and therefore can be thought to owe *Nothing* to Dr. *Bentley*, who of all Men

Men living is the fartheſt remov'd from any *Tendency* or Pretenſion to ſuch a ſort of *Character*. Nor does his *Lordſhip* ſeem, o' t' other ſide, ſo uneaſy or diſſatisfy'd at the *Converſation* and *Behaviour* of the Gentlemen of the Society, as to make it Credible, that He *deſpiſes* every body among us, but Dr. *Bentley*. If he did, I am ſure it wou'd be one of the moſt Unaccountable things in *Nature*, How his *Lordſhip* cou'd poſſibly be ſo firmly poſſeſs'd of the *Hearts* and *Affections* of the whole College: And how it ſhou'd come to paſs, that Every *Man* of us, upon the very remoteſt *Thoughts* of his Leaving the *Univerſity*, ſhou'd be always prepar'd to attend him, where-ever He goes, with this Melancholy, this Happy Preſaging Exclamation,

I decus, i noſtrum! ——— ———

Dr. *Bentley*, after having appropriated my Lord *Kingſton*'s *Hundred* pounds to his Own Vain-Glory; concludes his Vindication of Himſelf, by ſaying that, THAT year alſo, when the *Audit* was made, theſe very *Seniors* paſs'd thoſe Accounts for the Lodge, without the leaſt Complaint or Exception. —— More Shame for 'em if they did: however, they now think fit to repent and be ſorry for it. There is no Need of *blowing up* this Article, becauſe there are enow againſt him without this, to Caſt him by any *Jury* of *Reaſonable* men in the World: But He has made ſuch Woful Work on't, by endeavouring to Defend it, that He had infinitely better have ſaid nothing at all about it. For be the *Charge* never ſo Petty, that does not leſſen the *Crime* of the Article, but rather the Contrary.

Damnum eſt, non facimus mihi pacto levius iſto.

And thus at laſt, Sir, we have gone through Dr. *Bentley*'s Letter: As ſmoothly, I hope, as cou'd be expected, in ſuch Rugged way. Theſe are all the principal Particulars, that were worth taking any Notice of in it; and theſe the moſt material Obſervations I have been able to make, at leiſure Hours, between Other Bus'neſs and Diverſion.

Let any Man judge Whether the *Petitioners* have not Reaſon for what they do. Let any one conſider whether they have not proceeded againſt Dr. *Bentley*, in this whole Bus'neſs, with the greateſt Temper and Mildneſs, Moderation and Forbearance, that the *Extremity* of the Caſe cou'd poſſibly admit of. Let any one conſider, what a *Tryal* they have undergone; how much they have ſuffer'd formerly without Complaining; and how much He has *now* made 'em ſuffer afreſh, for Complaining of their Former Sufferings: Let any One conſider how *good* We were allow'd to be, ſo long as we cou'd *endure* the Yoke; and how *profligate*, how *vile*, how *worthleſs*, we are become all of a ſudden, now we begin to find it *Intolerable*. Let any one conſider the groſs random *Characters* He gives on *Both* Sides, in *Abhorrence* of thoſe that ſtruggle for *Liberty*, and in *Praiſe* of thoſe that acquieſce in *Slavery*: In ſhort, let any one conſider the Whole Strain of his *Letter*; the Malice, the Falſhood, the Contradiction, the Forgery, the Nonſenſe and Impertinence of it: And then let him think whether it be poſſible for Dr. *Bentley* to be a Man of Conſcience, Honour and Integrity. Or elſe, let *Cicero* reſolve the Que-

Queſtion for him. *Cadit ergo in virum bonum*, ſays Cicero, *mentiri emolumenti ſui cauſa, criminari, præripere, fallere? nihil profecto minus.* Is it conſiſtent with the Character of a Good or an Honeſt Man, to utter the rankeſt Falſhoods, for the ſake of a little private Intereſt; to defame, to over-reach, to deceive and put Tricks upon his Neighbour? — The fartheſt from it in the World, certainly. ——

People I find imagine, from this *Letter* of Dr. *Bentley*'s, and the great Noiſe that the *State* and Affairs of *Trinity College* make every where abroad in the Nation; that We are a Sett of the moſt Vexatious, Wrangling, Quarrelſome, Brawling Men in the whole Kingdom. 'Tis a very great Miſtake; for even at this preſent, in this conſus'd, doubtful, and depending Article of Time and Circumſtances, We converſe and enjoy One another, with as much Eaſe and Freedom, with as much Pleaſure and Satisfaction in Each Other, as almoſt any Society can, at any time, be ſuppos'd to do: There is no Eſtrangement, no Contention of Oppoſite Parties, no Troubleſome Diſagreement between the Generality of *Subſcribers* and *Non-Subſcribers*; We are neither *Angry* with, nor *Aſham'd* of One Another: And were it not for theſe *Oppreſſions* and *Innovations* of Dr. *Bentley*'s, were the Great *Incendiary* once remov'd, We ſhou'd infallibly be as *Happy* a College as any in *England*: We ſhou'd *flouriſh* as much, and *ſtudy* as hard, and to as good *Purpoſe* too, as ever We have done, or are like to do upon *His* Account.

Dr. *Bentley*, I know, will take it heinouſly at my hands, that I ſhou'd dare to *judge* of, much

more to find *fault* with any thing that He propoſes, or ſays, or does. I can't Help that. He ſhou'd have taken care to be in the *Right*, if he had no mind I ſhou'd *Oppoſe* him. But indeed, as the Caſe now ſtands, I expect no *Favour*; and I'm afraid of no *Cenſure*. *Ill Treatment* will be no Surprize to me at all; eſpecially from *Him*. And He'll probably think this a juſt Opportunity to let looſe all his Rage againſt me. *Scilicet, audere quemquam ſapere, ubi Illi Tali & Tanto deſipere contigerit, Injuria erit non ferenda.* *

He has ſaid indeed, that I might ſcribble and expoſe my ſelf, by Engaging on the *Wrong* ſide of a Declamation; but as to the *Argument* He defy'd me: for, alas, I had no *Concluſion-Book* to conſult, and therefore cou'd not poſſibly underſtand any thing of the Merits of the Cauſe. Notwithſtanding, I don't queſtion being equal to *Him* in the *preſent* Argument; and if I maintain my Ground againſt ſo *great* a Man as *He* is, and *without* thoſe mighty *Helps* and *Aſſiſtances* abovemention'd, I ſhall come off as well as I deſire. I hope to ſpeak more *Truth* than He has done: and, by that means, to be as well received, as if I had all his *Other* Talents to equip me for a Writer.

However, let me perform never ſo Well or Ill, I ſhall hardly teize and perſecute every Body I meet, for his Approbation of my Labours, as He did when his *Egregious* Letter was firſt Publiſh'd. —— Well; what do People ſay of my

* Bentley's Emend. ad Tuſc. *pag.* 2.

Book

Book? —— How do they like my Book? —— What? Don't they talk of my Book? —— Well; what? They don't say 'tis Ill Writ? Do they? ——

Now, Sir, You must think, He has his KNOWING Men, his PERSONS of SENSE and CANDOR, that know their *Cue* to Admiration. And These do not fail to Humour him right; and immediately reply —— Oh dear, Sir, Ill Writ? —— No; Every Body must allow it to be a most *nervous* and *exact* Piece, and to be written with the best *Spirit*, in the World. —— But then if any Man of *Sense* and REASON happens to be of a Contrary Opinion, and to say that it is a sad *scurrilous* piece, and that every body is highly scandaliz'd and disgusted at the *Absurdity* of it: —— Why then, the *Author* appeals to the *Nobility*; and says —— Ay? —— That's strange indeed: For all the People of *Quality*, and *Great* Men about the *Court*, are infinitely pleas'd with it, and like it extremely!

—— *Credat Judæus Apella.*

Upon this Occasion, I must not omit to *Advertise* all the Curious World, all the Admirers of Our great Author's Lucubrations, That, his *Last* Work having met with so Extraordinary a Reception at their Hands, He is now Busy upon a very Voluminous and Learned Undertaking in the *same* Way and Air, wherein He designs to enlarge very much upon such of the *Subscribers Characters* as were *imperfectly* display'd, and to add several *New* Ones, that were wholly omit-

ted, in his Former Performance. The *Author* proposes in this Treatise to oblige his Countrymen with a very accurate and copious *Thesaurus* of the *Opprobrious Dialect*, being a complete Collection of *Low Wit*, and Banter, together with the very Flower of *Thames-Street Rhetorique*. And I hear He intends to Inscribe it to the Learned the *Natives* and *Inhabitants* of that *Flourishing* part of our *Metropolis*.

I am glad He is prevail'd upon to make choice of such a *suitable* Patronage. I was afraid He wou'd have been so *Imprudent* to be exposing his *Ware* at St. *James*'s and *Westminster*; which cou'd never have succeeded to the satisfaction of the *Composer*, or to that of his *Customers*: For undoubtedly *That* End of the *Town* has had Enough of him long since. His Works will read well enough towards the *Bridge*, and perhaps in some *Other* parts of the *City*: But if You pretend to carry 'em o' t' Other Side of *Temple-Bar*, I am positive they will evaporate; they'll never be *Tasted*. And indeed, how shou'd they be *Tasted* among People that *have* any *Taste*?

Offenduntur enim quibus est equus, & pater, & res:
Nec, si quid fricti ciceris probat & nucis emptor,
Æquis accipiunt animis, donantve corona.

I am pretty secure, in Dr. *Bentley*'s Contempt, that He will never take any Publique Notice of any thing that I shall be able to say. For if He does not despise me, if He does not *answer* me with *Silence* and *Neglect*, He will do me a Prodigious Honour: which I shall not fail to acknowledge, if He proceeds in any thing of a *Per-*

Pertinent or *Decent* manner. For, I confeſs, I ſhall do my Endeavour, upon this Occaſion, and in ſo good a Cauſe as that of *Truth* and *Liberty*, to have the *laſt Word*, ſo long as there is any *Argument* ſtirring.

Well then; Let him go on in his Method as long as He pleaſes; I ſhan't much diſcompoſe my ſelf with Apprehenſions of what his Plodding *Virulence* may produce. Let him Copy cloſe after this *Letter* he has ſucceeded ſo well in; and when he has drawn up ſuch Another Black *infernal Rhapſody* of promiſcuous *Defamation*, let him look over his Catalogue of *Non-Subſcribers*, and ſee how many *Flowers* He can pick out among 'em, that will as CONSCIENTIOUSLY Subſcribe it.

And now, Sir, I ſhall take my leave of this Mighty man. I make no queſtion but He will arraign me for a *Diſturber* of the *Peace* of *Trinity College*: And I own I am ſo, in the ſenſe He endeavours to put upon thoſe words of *Our Petition*. I Own I have, in my little Sphere, been as deep in this Crime as perhaps any One Member of the College. And ſince there are many of Us involv'd in the ſame Guilt, ſince He threatens and *predicts* very ſurprizng Revolutions, and ſince No body knows where the ſtorm may fall moſt ſeverely, or who may be the Firſt, or the moſt unfortunate Sufferer; ſhou'd I, by ſome unexpected Turn of Providence, eſcape with Life and Limb from the diſmal Conflagration, while Others, my Friends and Brethren, are carry'd off and Deſtroy'd: I ſhou'd almoſt repine at the melancholly Deliverance; I ſhou'd almoſt have the Vanity, to apply to my ſelf

those inimitable Lines which *Virgil* puts into the mouth of his *Æneas*.

Iliaci cineres, & flamma extrema meorum:
Teſtor, in occaſu veſtro, nec tela, nec ullas
Vitaviſſe vices Danaûm; &, ſi fata fuiſſent
Ut caderem, meruiſſe manu. - - - - - - - - -

THE END.

Advertisement.

WHEREAS Dr. Bentley *has us'd great Diligence to report, That Two late Pieces, One Entitl'd,* The True State of *Trinity* College; *the Other,* Some Considerations humbly offer'd to the Bishop of *Ely, were written by Me; I think my self oblig'd to thank him, for giving Himself so much Trouble, and Me so much Honour, more than was Necessary. I'm afraid, the World will hardly believe I cou'd shew my self under so many Differennt Forms; and that the Foregoing Discourse will convict me of having no Title to Either of Those. I'll assure him I don't take it ill; but those Authors may, to have their Productions bear no higher a*

Cha-

Character, than that of their being Mistaken for Mine. So long as He does not Father his PRESENT STATE *upon me, I shall do well enough. If he really thinks Those Books to be Mine, it will be Improper and Immethodical for him to Refute* This, *'till He has try'd what he can do against* Those.

T. B.

ERRATA.

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Pref. 10	21	minus ac si
Book 25	6	*this:*
38	25	
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